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THE TIMES

King George of the English stage: Irving Wardle, p6

I will not quit, defiant Mr Healey tells critics

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said last night that he intended to remain in the contest for the leadership of the Labour Party. "I am not a quitter", he said, rejecting suggestions that he should withdraw to give Mr Callaghan a clear run against Mr Foot.

Mr Callaghan still firm favourite

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, last night rejected suggestions that he should withdraw from the Labour Party leadership contest to give Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, a clear run to defeat the challenge from Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment. Mr Foot led in the first ballot.

Speaking in radio and television interviews last night, Mr Healey predicted that in the second ballot, which closes at noon on Tuesday, he would increase his vote (only 30 in the first round) and thereby advance his standing in the parliamentary Labour Party.

Realistically, he still believes that he will continue as Chancellor of the Exchequer to bring in the Budget on April 6 and complete his task of combating inflation, reducing unemployment, and putting the economy on the right lines.

Mr Callaghan, who is 64 to-day, remains the firm favourite for the premiership. He had 84 votes in the first ballot and has the prospect of picking up most of the votes cast for Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary (40 votes), and Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment (17 votes).

The battle now is between Mr Healey and Mr Callaghan for the "floating" right-centre votes. Some Labour MPs thought last night that the Chancellor might be helping Mr Foot, who is on the left of the party and took 50 votes in the first ballot, by stridently challenging Mr Callaghan in the race to succeed Mr Wilson.

Mr Healey may come bottom in the poll in the next ballot, but he is a plucky fighter, with a sense of humour which the other candidates cannot rival. By staying in the race when others have withdrawn he is clearly staking his claim to the position of standard-bearer for the centre-right of the parliamentary party in any future contest.

When asked about rumours that he was withdrawing in favour of Mr Callaghan, he said last night: "I am standing because I am not a quitter. I was expected to do comparatively badly in the first ballot, and the real problem was whether I survived at all. I got exactly as many votes as were identified in the private canvass which my supporters conducted, and consequently I was not disappointed by some of my colleagues.

I entered the race late in the day, but I expected that I would pick up votes continually after the first ballot if I could survive. I have learnt in my political career never to express pessimism or optimism, but only determination.

The basis of my appeal to the Parliamentary Labour Party is my record as Chancellor of the Exchequer, as the minister principally concerned with the economic problems which have been most dominant in the last few years and which will remain the most important for the next four or ten years."

He thinks he will garner some of the votes cast earlier for Mr Jenkins and Mr Crosland, and even some from the group which supported Mr Foot, but realizes now that a victory for the left would harm the party and the country.

Mr Healey's supporters believe that Mr Foot has won his spurs and, whatever happens, must have a leading position in both government and party, a fact that must give great comfort to the left wing of the party, which wants a stronger influence over government policy.

By all accounts, Mr Jenkins was shattered by the size of his vote. He had expected 90 but received only 56. According to some MPs who watched events closely on Thursday night, only three of his 12 leading supporters wanted him to stay in the election.

Mr Healey's supporters calculate that if he can survive the second ballot he will win on the third, the result of which will be declared during the evening of April 5, the eve of Budget Day.

He has been told that some of Mr Callaghan's supporters are saying that Mr Foot will win if everyone does not rally to Mr Callaghan. That is the kind of propaganda Mr Healey was seeking to counteract in his broadcasts last night.

He points out that he was chosen by his constituency of Leeds, South-East, in 1932 he was third in the first ballot, but eventually emerged as the winner. He hopes that that pattern will be repeated.

He is being asked whether, if he is elected leader and Prime Minister, he would think it necessary or right to go to the country for a fresh mandate. He is cautious on the point, but recognizes that the balance of power in Parliament is so delicate that the government cannot be sure of getting its legislation through.

For any future Labour Prime Minister, the time could come in the next 12 months when he might decide that it is better for the Labour Party to appeal to the country for a fresh mandate than to continue in office severely restricted by the lack of an overall majority in the Commons.

Mr Ryman decides: Mr John Ryman, Labour MP for Blyth, who did not vote in the first ballot for the party leadership, said yesterday that he would be voting in the second round (the Press Association reports). His choice, he said, was Mr Foot.

If he had voted in the first ballot, he said, his vote would have gone to Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, who has now withdrawn from the contest.

He declined to say why he did not vote. He is awaiting a legal action about his election expenses and has played almost no part in parliamentary life for some months.

Leading article, page 15

Former American Treasury Sreary in Leon financier's influential personal circle

West German Precent aong Mr Ahmed's friends

By Malcolm Brown and Maurice Corina in London, Frank Vogl in New York, and Sue Masterman in The Hague

Herr Walter Scheel, President of West Germany, Mr Robert B. Anderson, former Secretary of the United States Treasury, and Mr Maxwell Rabb, former Secretary to the United States Cabinet, have been among high level people in a personal circle surrounding London financier Shaikh Ali Ahmed, friend of Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands.

Their association with Mr Ahmed, who has made claims to represent a worldwide investment group but sponsors the small Finance Intercontinental from modest Kingsway premises, will add a new dimension to the growing speculation surrounding the Dutch prince's private business.

High level recommendations and introductions have been a feature of Mr Ahmed's business deals around the world, some of which are known to be unusual and led to complaints by the participants.

Among Mr Ahmed's friends has been Herr Scheel, a businessman before entering politics. In May, 1974, he sent a hand-written letter, while president-elect, to a German banker who had complained of his difficulties after a business link with Mr Ahmed which involved the use of Prince Bernhard's name.

After expressing his regret at the difficulties, Herr Scheel wrote: "First of all, I have known Shaikh Ali personally for years, but have had no business dealings with him. In the course of the last year he has now and again asked me to introduce him to someone. In one or two cases I, of course, did so, but not without pointing out that I could give no guidance of business referred for Shaikh Ali."

The letter, written in reply to complaints over introductions at local governmental and diplomatic levels with Germany, continues: "I have not met Shaikh Ali in the company of Prince Bernhard, as he has obviously known for years." Herr Scheel undertook to write to Mr Ahmed personally.

After writing to Prince Bernhard in August, 1974, the German financier who courted Herr Scheel also wrote Mr Anderson in New York who replied: "I do not believe I want to comment on any my experiences with Mr Ahmed, but will simply consign that part of my experience to past history. That letter was dated July 1975.

The dates are of some importance because it is known that Prince Bernhard had received representations from completely separate and highly reputable groups during 1972 and 1973 complaining about its business relationship with Ahmed. He was, therefore, aware of past disputes arising from his relationship with Mr Ahmed.

Certain complaints were made to the Belgian banking "watchdog" agency in Brussels, Commission Bancaire, in October, 1974, over bank references for Mr Ahmed's Finance Intercontinental, provided to participants in a number of financial projects. The commission said that it was unable to investigate because it had no power to intervene in differences between individual banks and their clients.

The complaints centre on extraordinarily conflicting fulsome bankers' references on Mr Ahmed as a businessman, issued by the Banque de Paris et Pays-Bas, Belgique, the Belgian branch of one of Europe's largest banking houses.

For example, in a letter to British Caledonian Airways in December, 1972, Mr M. Naessens, at the time managing director of the bank (now honorary chairman of the board and claimed by Mr Ahmed to be his personal adviser), said: "I am able to confirm to you that [Mr Ahmed's assignment] represents, indeed, an official authority, the group mentioned in my letter of July 26.

"As a matter of fact, he may be considered to be the direct representative of the high personality I verbally mentioned to you during a prior telephone conversation. There is no doubt in my mind that [he] can deal in the sums in the order of £4m."

Continued on page 19, col 6



Mr Robert B. Anderson former Secretary of the US Treasury, King Hassan of Morocco, and Herr Walter Scheel, President of West Germany. Ehad dealings with Mr Ali Ahmed.

Nixon family 'feared for President's sanity'

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 26

Mr Richard Nixon, in his last months as President, took to drink, brooded over suicide, and became so erratic and reclusive that family members feared he was going mad, according to leaked accounts of a forthcoming book entitled *The Final Days*.

According to one account in the New York *Daily News*, Mrs Patricia Nixon, the President's wife, also, became a secret drinker.

The accounts are attributed to the book by Mr Robert Woodward and Mr Carl Bernstein, the *Washington Post* journalist whose reporting helped to keep the Watergate scandal alive after Mr Nixon's reelection.

Although it is not due to be published until May 3, it is already being predicted that there will be prejudice to President Ford's election campaign both from the book and from the earlier release of the Robert Redford film *All the President's Men*, which portrays the Woodward and Bernstein account of how they broke the story. The presumption is that Mr Ford, who pardoned Mr Nixon, will suffer from the reenactment of the trauma of 1973-74.

Simon and Schuster, of New York, the publishers of the book, say its publication has been their most tightly guarded secret. Its serialization is planned by *Newsweek* magazine on Sunday and in Britain the following Sunday.

The first accounts appeared in *Time* magazine. Mr Nixon near the end was depicted as saying: "Goodbye" to the portraits of his predecessors hanging in the White House. The New York *Daily News* today stated that the source for that incident was Mr David Eisenhower, one of Mr Nixon's sons-in-law.

Time also had Mr Nixon taking Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, next door to the Oval Office, to join him on his knees. "You are not a very orthodox Jew and I am not an orthodox Quaker, but we need to pray", the magazine quoted him as saying. Dr Kissinger is depicted as praying even though he supposedly despised Mr Nixon.

The *Daily News* claimed that there was more than this to the anecdote. It said that Mr Nixon had afterwards broken down in Dr Kissinger's arms, and that Dr Kissinger, deeply shaken, later said he felt like a father towards a son. The newspaper accused Dr Kissinger of betraying the president's confidence in relaying this story after their prayers. The *Daily News* then had to put his arms around Nixon. . . . The President went berserk after the Amen, and started beating his fists on the floor, screaming and crying. Kissinger went back to the State Department completely unnerved. He was so quiet and unlike his usual self that his staff wondered what was wrong. . . . Kissinger finally told an aide that his experience with the President had made him feel like a father consoling a son."

The *Daily News* adds that the book's authors said Mr Nixon had begged Dr Kissinger never to tell of his breaking down like this. It also reports that Mr Nixon's suicide talk led to the removal by his staff of drugs from his medicine cabinet.

Strike by 30 at carburettor factory threatens to paralyse Leyland

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Cars plunged deeper into its latest crisis yesterday with more production stopped by strikes, 7,000 workers idle and lay-offs increasing by the hour.

To add to the gloomy picture portrayed to shop stewards on Thursday, management gave a warning yesterday that production throughout the group would soon be halted by a fortnight-old strike involving only 30 toolroom employees at Solihull.

This group subsidiary is the sole supplier of carburettors and fuel pumps for all Leyland cars and many of its commercial vehicles. Output has dropped steadily as machines fell idle because of lack of maintenance normally carried out by the men on strike.

Yesterday 410 production workers—half the SU labour force—were laid off and carburettor output halted. Fuel pump production is continuing but it is only a matter of days before that too peters out.

Existing carburettor stocks have been seriously depleted and are only sufficient to meet the needs of the assembly lines for another few days.

The situation is so serious that senior management, national officials of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and shop stewards representing all SU employees went to the Department of Employment two days ago in an unsuccessful attempt to break the deadlock. A similar joint visit was made on Thursday at the department, repeated that the toolmakers' claim breaches the pay policy's 12-month interval between awards. It can be paid in six days' time but the strikers insist it should be backdated to December.

A department spokesman said last night: "The 12-months rule is absolutely fundamental to the pay policy. There is no provision for exceptions and the department has based its advice on this principle. Up to now 6.5 million workers have settled within the pay policy—almost half the country's workforce."

Attempts to breach the voluntary pay policy are the root cause of several other strikes now plaguing Leyland Cars. Mr Derek Whittaker, managing director, has made it plain to shop stewards that as the head of a state-controlled concern he has no intention of acting contrary to government policy on such a key issue.

At Triumph, Coventry, all production came to a standstill yesterday as a separate dispute involving toolroom workers has prevented any Land-Rover and Range Rover production for the past two weeks. Another 600 workers were laid off at Rover plants in the Midlands yesterday, bringing the total to 4,000.

But a strike by 250 press operators at Leyland Cars plant in Llanelli, South Wales, has been settled after meetings between the management and unions.

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State aid no disgrace, page 19

Lebanon leftist chief is called to Damascus

From Paul Martin
Beirut, March 26

Attempts to prevent the Lebanon war escalating into a wider conflict are now focused on the expected visit to Damascus at the weekend of Mr Kamal Jumblatt, leader of leftist armies now on the offensive.

This new attempt to resolve the presidential crisis and avert the certain slide to partition was initiated as the Lebanese leftists battled with Christian militia units in the capital and south, since dawn on a military saturnine bent on a months of conflict, the artillery and mortar bombardment in Beirut's suburbs developed into what has been described as a "war of genocide". Since the Phalangists began shelling the Muslim western suburbs with heavy artillery five days ago, encouraging a retaliatory campaign of bloodshed by their enemies, the daily death toll has been about 200.

The defiance by the Muslim left of Syrian attempts to bring about a peaceful solution has brought Lebanon to the brink of disaster, particularly as the Syrians are now faced with the problem of whether to move into the country with military force. Hence the importance of Mr Jumblatt's visit to Damascus.

Mr Jumblatt, who has emerged as the most powerful political figure in Lebanon today, has announced that he will in fact go. In preparation he held a meeting today with his political allies in his mountain redoubt of Aley from which he has directed the leftist armies' campaign.

Faced with the latest outburst of fighting, the Syrians today threateningly withdrew the two colonels who had been sent here to enforce the will of Damascus on the Lebanese. Their departure was accompanied by persistent reports of large-scale Syrian military build-up on the common border —not an subtle hint of what obedience by either left or right.

What has made this the most savage phase in a barbarous war has been the bombardment of the densely populated capital with artillery, mortars and rockets. It has been estimated that as many as 1,000 people, many of them innocent civilians, have been killed in the five days of the "war of genocide".

The Phalangist radio announced that rightist Christian forces have retaliated for each shell lobbed into their areas at a rate of five to one.

Damascus, March 26.—King Husain of Jordan had an "important" talk here today with President Assad of Syria. —Agence France-Presse.

Leading article, page 15

Devolution vital, Mr Jenkins says

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

A settled and determined change of opinion in Scotland about Scotland's relationship with England must be recognized and "there can be no setting the clock back", Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, told a meeting at Inverclyde last night.

"Some people are opposed to the transfer of power from London to Scotland because of the need to preserve political and economic unity, or because of anxiety that it may be the beginning of the disintegration of the United Kingdom, or because they regard it as a costly and unnecessary luxury at a time of grave economic difficulty", he said.

"Although it is an understandable and even honourable attitude, I believe that it is now entirely misconceived."

Such views did not recognize the firm change in Scottish opinion. They ignored the lessons of history and flew in the face of the rules of imaginative statesmanship.

In 1707 the desire of the Scots to retain a kind of federal union, with their own parliament for purely Scottish affairs, was swept aside by the English government, which insisted on a union in which there could be only one parliament. Successful federal government on American, Canadian or German lines was not then known.

"But the fact remains that the loss of the parliament of Scotland has been a source of real, if fluctuating grievance, aggravated by indifference to Scottish needs in the last century, by the subsequent decline of Scotland's traditional industrial base by the increasing size and remoteness of the government in London and recently and sharply by the discovery of oil under the North Sea."

In those circumstances he believed the real threat to the national fabric would come not from an orderly process of devolution, but rather from a grudgingly reluctant half-measure for the devolution of political power, or, worse still, the raising of expectations which the Westminster Parliament proved unwilling to satisfy.

"Such a course would give to those who depend for their political future on whipping up narrow nationalist sentiment a rallying point for continuing popular mistrust and discontent. Such a course could indeed lead to the break-up of the United Kingdom."

It was easy to describe the

Continued on page 2, col 1

Pay beds go up by 30 per cent

By John Roper
Medical Reporter

The Government yesterday announced an increase of 30 per cent in charges for private beds. Recent speculation had suggested that the increase might be as high as 50 per cent and that for political reasons the Government wanted to make pay beds expensive.

The increased charges, almost £12 a day more for a single room in a London teaching hospital, bringing the cost to £51.20 a day for a single room, excluding doctor's fees, are likely to lead private patients to seek alternative accommodation, which it is claimed can be more cheaply provided in the private sector.

The British Medical Association said last night that despite repeated requests they had not been supplied with the detailed figures of increased costs of items taken into account in calculating the charges.

The 30 per cent increase reinforced the point that if the Government persisted with the intention to phase out pay beds, the National Health Service would be the loser by millions of pounds.

The increase in charges last year approached 50 per cent, which was added to a 25 per cent increase the year before.

The new charges (with previous charges in brackets) are: London teaching hospitals, £51.20 per day (£39.30); provincial teaching hospitals and university hospitals, £42.90 (£33); general hospitals, £36.20 (£28). The increase includes a small contribution towards capital expenditure.

The British United Provident Association, the biggest of the private health insurance schemes, said that the increase was not unfair. It was based on an economic judgment and was not political.

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efugees fear assacre in ngola camps

uncertain future faces the 4,000 olan refugees in two South African camps when the last South African es withdraw from the territory to-They have been provided with shelter and protection over the seven months but now the refugees, of them black, fear a massacre, belong to movements defeated g their country's civil war Page 4

gentine 'clean-up'

ntina's military junta lifted press orship yesterday and announced ould stay in power for at least years. There were reports of ical violence as the military ded up some 4,000 people, includmany prominent Peronists, in a ive "clean-up" operation Page 4

reat to freedom

Michael Swann, chairman of the rnors of the BBC, gave a warning e Headmasters' Association confer- that a much more authoritarian of government might take over ritain if tensions in society became acute Page 3

IRA mortar bombs hit army bases

Two IRA mortar attacks within 24 hours on British Army bases in Northern Ireland were causing concern to the security forces because of the difficulty of providing complete protection against such assaults. The latest attacks did not cause any casualties Page 2

Bribery investigation

Signor Mario Tanassi, a former Social Democrat Minister of Defence, was notified by the Rome public prosecutor that he is under investigation in connexion with the Lockheed bribery affair. The investigations concern the purchase by the Italian Government of 14 Hercules military transport aircraft Page 3

Coach crash death

A woman died and 19 others were injured when a coach overturned on the A74 at Beattock, Dumfries and Galloway. The coach, which was travelling from Manchester to Glasgow, is thought to have skidded on ice Page 3

QE2 group buys the Ritz Hotel for £2.7m

The Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly is being sold for £2.7m. Purchasers are the £130m Trafalgar House Investments group, which owns the QE2 and has a chain of London hotels, as well as a large shareholding in the Savoy group. The Ritz board, which includes Mr Charles Cesar Ritz, son of the founder, has agreed to sell its 85 per cent shareholding to Trafalgar Page 19

NCB chief stays on

Sir Derek Ezra is to retain his position as chairman of the National Coal Board. His present term expires in June and there had been speculation that he might go Page 19

Concorde: British ministers will resist French pressure to extend the production programme, at a meeting in Paris on Monday 2

Scrap metal fines: An Oxford scrap metal firm and three of its directors were fined a total of £254,230 over exports outside the EEC 3

Tunisia: Two-page Special Report to mark the twentieth anniversary of independence 12-13

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Leading articles: The hour for Mr Callaghan; Lebanon falls apart; Leyland trouble

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Stock markets: Equities ended the week well and the *FT* Index closed at 410.4 a gain of 4.1 on the day and of 16.1 over the week

Personal investment and finance: Michael Bayliss on unit trust invested in the United States; Patricia Tisdall on air fares to New York; John Drummond on aspects of life assurance cover; John Whitmore on the American option market; Francis Kinsman on shady deals in foreign parts

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HOME NEWS

Labour's Scottish conference falls into line behind devolution but seeks more powers for Assembly

From David Leigh
Troon, Strathclyde

The Labour Party's Scottish conference fell into line in Troon yesterday behind the cause of devolution, adding a call to give the Assembly more powers than those planned by the Government.

The few diehard unionists were squashed, extreme breakaway home rule supporters disposed of in their absence, and the divisions in the centre of the spectrum about Assembly economic powers were effectively smothered in a vague resolution passed without a vote.

That success for a party originally confused and divided is the culmination of a long period of manoeuvring in Scotland. Now the party establishment hopes it has found a piece of ground somewhere on the road to total Scottish independence, from which it can turn and fight the threat of the Nationalists, not only to Labour seats in Scotland but also to the balance of forces in the next United Kingdom Parliament.

The agreed resolution calls for early elections to an Assembly, which should have control of the Scottish Development Agency as part of unspecified "powers over trade and industry". It also called for the abolition of proposed veto powers over the Assembly, other tax powers to be considered rather than a rates levy, and Assembly control of the universities.

This last is the only specific point going farther than the party's Scottish executive's document and was supported by the executive, who want a royal commission on universities first.

Scottish Labour politicians still have five or six different points of view about Scottish devolution. Some, like Mr William Hamilton, MP for Central Fife, who made a short, abrasive speech yesterday, still reject it.

"There is not one here who can put his hand on his heart and say he is here out of conviction", he said. "We are here out of blatant political appeasement." Narrow minded, short sighted nationalism was rampant in Scotland and while the party had originally derided devolution there was still going to be an English backlash. "If it does not go through, I for one will shed no tears."

Mr Eric Heffer, a prominent English anti-devolutionist MP, was in the hall to hear him.

Then there is last autumn's White Paper, offering an elected Assembly with powers over housing, health, social services, education and other matters now handled by the Scottish Office in Edinburgh.

Mr Ronald Hayward, the party's general secretary, assured delegates that whoever became Prime Minister, the commitment stood.

"Suppose we had turned our backs on the Scottish demand for devolution? What would the outcome have been then? Disaster for Scotland and disaster for us all."

All the main wings of the party, the TUC, the Scottish TUC, the Scottish MPs, the Scottish Council Executive and now the conference, accept the White Paper's basic version of devolution. But they want some improvement.

Handing over of the SDA and the abolition of the veto powers are expected to be conceded by the Government. "There has never been a time when the major wings of the party have been more united", Mr John Mackintosh, MP for Berwick and East Lothian, told the conference.

The "maximalists" still in the party, who include Mr Mackintosh, have fallen into line. They have partially won the day over the universities. But they badly want extra trade and industry powers, including Assembly control over cash for industry given under the Industry Act, 1972.

Resolutions from unions and constituencies proposing extra economic powers were omitted in the preparation of the composite motion, leaving a vague demand the executive could support.

Mr Alec Kitson, the Transport and General Workers' Union member of Labour's National Executive Committee, told delegates there had been divisions in the past. Now a stage had been reached when the Labour movement is going to commit itself to a unanimous decision as far as devolution is concerned".

In the outer darkness is Mr James Sillars, one of the two MP members of the breakaway Scottish Labour Party (SLP). He stands for extensive trade and industry powers, a share of oil revenues and something nearer full Scottish independence.

Mr Sillars, who considers himself betrayed by the White Paper's attitude on trade and industry, came in for harsh words yesterday. The harshest were from Mr Harry Ewing, a Scottish Office junior minister and an old personal friend.

He said Mr Hayward's earlier plea to the SLP to return to the fold was futile, and he hoped Mr Sillars was not going to continue parading through Scotland lecturing the party on political honesty and integrity. "I will not take lectures from those who betray their political origins."

Universities policy: Conservative MPs will resist proposals that links between Scottish universities and the United Kingdom University Grants Committee should be broken, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said yesterday.

Government will resist pressure on Concorde

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British ministers concerned with the Concorde supersonic airliner project will resist French pressure for the laying down of six more aircraft when they meet their opposite numbers in Paris on Monday.

The British Government, while continuing to support the project fully in principle, believes that the construction of further Concordes in addition to the 16 already authorized could not be justified in the present economic climate.

Seven of the authorized 16 aircraft remain unsold, but two of them, the first two production machines, will not be offered for sale, as it would cost too much to refurbish them after they have taken part in the development programme.

The Government realizes that its policy will be unpopular among the trade unions, particularly in the Bristol area, where work on the Concorde assembly line is rapidly running out.

The French Concorde assembly centre at Toulouse faces a similar difficulty, but it appears to have been able to put greater pressure on its government. As a result, the French Minister of Transport, M Marcel Cavaille, can be expected to urge strongly the advantages of further construction on Mr Kaufman, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, and Mr Clinton Davis, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Trade, when he meets them on Monday.

M Cavaille will point out that some items for a further six Concordes were authorized by the two governments in 1973. A programme to build six more Concordes, based on those items, could be spread over a long period, ensuring that the highly skilled teams at Bristol and Toulouse would not break up, and that potential purchasers would have faith in the long-term viability of the project.

The British view is that continuity of the assembly lines is not as critical as has been suggested, and that Concordes could be made one at a time if there was a demand for them. The French will point out that the cost of each Concorde, already about £30m, would work out considerably higher under such a system.

Some leaders of the British aircraft industry think that without an agreement to build more Concordes, the French will go ahead on their own, ordering parts which they do not make from British subcontractors.

Both governments are broadly agreed over the need to exploit the Concorde commercially now that it is in service with both British Airways and Air France. Both are optimistic about the potential of the American market. Services to Washington begin from London and Paris on May 24. The possibility of leasing Concordes to other airlines will also be discussed.

Bids of seats on British Airways or Air France flights could be offered to other airlines; aircraft and their crews could be leased to fly under American colours; or foreign airlines could be offered the finance necessary to lease aircraft and train crews to fly them.

Five thousand stop work: More than five thousand Concorde and Rolls-Royce engine workers stopped work yesterday to attend a mass meeting on the aircraft's future. They passed a resolution expressing confidence in the Concorde

IRA steps up mortar attacks on Army

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

The Provisional IRA yesterday without warning launched another mortar bomb attack against a British Army base, the second in less than 24 hours.

Although there were no casualties the new terror tactic is causing serious concern to the security forces, aware of the impractical cost of complete protection for military installations against the ingenious home-made missiles.

A second and more serious attack took place at tea time, when three mortar bombs crashed into the Fort George camp in Londonderry, a converted naval depot on the outskirts of the city. Two exploded without causing serious damage and a third was defused. Another was later found unexploded 400 yards away.

The Army said that the mortars had come within a few hundred yards of blowing up an oil storage tank close to the camp. The bombs had been fired over a busy main road from an industrial estate.

Within 10 minutes of the bombs exploding, two men driving a car in a republican stronghold close to Fort George were stopped by troops, who found an Armalite rifle in the vehicle.

The attack was similar to another against a Londonderry camp on the Creggan Estate this month and comes after the spectacular mortar raid on Ulster's main civilian airport at Aldergrove.

Senior Army officers make no secret of their concern at the Provisionals' growing reliance on mortars or of the skill with which many of the weapons are manufactured, usually with modern tool-making equipment.

Apart from the obvious difficulty of protecting Army bases, another worry is the danger they pose to surrounding areas because of their inaccuracy.

Late on Thursday night a mortar attack was launched on Macrory Camp, a British Army base in the strongly republican Whiterock area of Belfast. Only one projectile landed inside the perimeter fence and there were no casualties.

The recent upsurge of Provisional IRA activity in Northern Ireland continued yesterday in the border town of Newry, where bombs were planted in the Ardmore, the city's best known hotel, and at an office of the Inland Revenue. A shot was fired at a policeman who tried to stop the terrorists escaping.

The tax office bomb was defused, but the one in the hotel exploded, causing damage but no injuries. The attack was further evidence of a concerted Provisional IRA campaign against hotels. One aim is seriously to embarrass the Government's attempts to find accommodation for potential investors in Ulster's ailing economy.

Our Political Staff writes: Royal assent was given yesterday to the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1976, which replaces a similar Act introduced shortly after the Birmingham public house bombings in November, 1974.

The Act, which proscribes the IRA and makes membership of that organization an offence, introduces a new offence in connexion with fund raising for terrorist purposes.

Another new offence is failing to disclose to the police information which could be of assistance in preventing a terrorist act connected with Northern Irish affairs.

The Act also gives the Government power to exclude a person from Northern Ireland.

Drawing the line on sharing of power

Continued from page 1

broad objective of the Government's policy: A coherent and enduring constitutional framework which reconciled the legitimate demands for Scottish control over Scottish affairs with the equally legitimate requirements of democratic and effective United Kingdom government.

But achieving it would require all the resources of skilful, strong and sensitive leadership by the Government in Parliament and the trust and good will of all the citizens.

It was impossible to remove all sources of friction in devising such a framework, but it was possible to create a scheme that would minimize avoidable conflict and gain the support of most people of sense and reason. He thought the result would depend on four fundamental principles:

1 The clearest possible definition of the line marking the powers of the devolved legislative and executive bodies which is compatible with flexible and efficient administration.

2 The minimum political interference by the Westminster Parliament and Government with the Scottish and Welsh institutions.

3 A method of settling the inevitable conflicts which arise when there are different legislative and executives is both workable and also which is seen to be fair.

4 The placing of whatever concerns the United Kingdom as a whole under the control of the United Kingdom Parliament.

"We must do our best to delineate the nature and scope of the powers of the new institutions without immobilizing them in rigidly inflexible constitutional straitjackets", Mr Jenkins said.

The fourth principle, insisting that whatever concerns the United Kingdom as a whole should be placed under the control of the Westminster Parliament, was essential to preserve the political and economic unity of the United Kingdom.

The issue was how and where to draw the lines of shared political power so that the new relationship was democratic, efficient and socially just, and therefore likely to be a lasting one.



Girl cadets from St Bartholomew's School, Newbury, Berkshire, being drilled yesterday by Sergeant John Pickering, of the Coldstream Guards, at the cadet training centre at Frimley Park, Surrey.

Lapwings caused five-death jet crash

From Our Correspondent
Guildford

A Hawker Siddeley 125 jet aircraft piloted by Group Captain John Cunningham crashed into a car at Dunsfold, Surrey, on November 20 last year, after a flock of lapwings were sucked into both engines on take off, a coroner's jury at Guildford was told yesterday.

A woman and the five schoolgirls she was driving home from school when the aircraft hit their car were killed.

The aircraft was taking off from the Hawker Siddeley airfield at Dunsfold when it crashed.

Verdicts of accidental death were returned on Mrs Jennifer Whittington, the wife of a Hawker Siddeley pilot, her two daughters, Julia, aged 15, and Elizabeth, aged 12, of Glendale, Billingshurst, West Sussex; Catherine Leakey, aged 15, of Winterfold, Wisborough Green, West Sussex; Jane Onslow, aged 17; and Katherine Tucker, aged 14, both of Loxwood, West Sussex. The jury added a rider calling for an inquiry into the safety of people on the ground near airfields.

Mr Edward Thurlow, the Surrey coroner, said that the accident happened by a very remote chance.

Group Captain Cunningham said he saw no sign of the birds as he prepared to take off on a demonstration flight carrying a delegation of Chinese as passengers. On take-off he "accelerated quite quickly to about 122 knots".

He added: "When I hit the birds my height would have been about 100 feet. I was simply into them. The immediate reaction was that we lost all power in both engines. At the height this occurred there was no other action but to head straight back on to the ground.

"I was aware that there was a road somewhere ahead but I did not know exactly how far. I could only see a hedge ahead of me and I did not know how many hedges there were before the road."

The aircraft hit the car and came to rest in a field on the other side of the road.

Proper training for estate agents urged

Mr Justice Pain spoke in the Court of Appeal yesterday of the need for state agents to be properly trained before they are allowed to set up in business.

He was refusing an appeal by Keith Howard Greenfield, aged 24, an estat agent, against a 15-month prison sentence imposed for stealing clients' deposits.

The judge said: "We regard this as a classic example of how undesirable it is for young men with no proper training, not only to be able to set themselves up in business as estate agents, but to be in a position to accept large sums of money from the public."

Mr Greenfield, of Ty Gwyn, Beddau, Llantrisant, South Glamorgan, who was jailed at Cardiff Crown Court on October 2, the judge said, had set himself up in business as an estate agent in Barry in 1974. His only training had been as an assistant with another firm of estate agents.

Mr Greenfeld, who had been convicted of thefts involving £1,725 of clients' money, had not put money received from clients as deposits for houses into a sperate bank account. He had put it into a business account and used it for the general running of the business.

"The only course the prudent and honest estate agent can take to protect himself and his clients is to put deposits into a separate account, which must remain untouched, come what may", the judge said.

It should be said "loud and clear" that any use by estate agents for their own purposes of deposits placed with them by clients was dishonest.

DPP drops gun charge against gardener

From Our Correspondent
Manchester

David Anderton, aged 19, a landscape gardener, who spent three months in custody accused of possessing a pistol and ammunition, learnt yesterday that the case against him had been dropped.

Mr Anderton was arrested with two other members of the Manchester Loyalist Association on December 23 at Middleton, Lancashire. Until a week ago when they were granted bail they were kept at Risley remand centre.

In Manchester yesterday a representative of the Director of Public Prosecutions said there was insufficient evidence to go the firearm charge against Mr Anderton, of Westage Gardens, Wythenshawe, Manchester, and Robert McFarlane Watson, aged 33. Mr Anderton was discharged.

Malcolm Alexander Rous, aged 34, is still charged with possessing the pistol and ammunition. Mr Rough, Mr Watson and Edward Scott, aged 33, are also accused of burglary and handling stolen property and were remanded on bail until April 6. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

Policeman at IRA funeral suspended

A police sergeant in the Irish Republic has been suspended for attending last month's Provisional IRA funeral demonstration in co Mayo for Frank Stagg, the IRA hunger striker who died in Wakefield Prison. Sergeant Martin Hogan, aged 35, faces dismissal.

Ten years for 'systematic' robber of mail trains

Edward May, aged 39, a former British Railways cleaner-thief, who stole mail bags and insurance stamps worth £500,000 from mail trains, was likened at Winchester Crown Court yesterday to "the American highwaymen who used to lie in the desert waiting for the mail wagon".

The comparison was made by Mr Ami Feder, for the prosecution, who said it was impossible to say how much Mr May made during a six-year period, but during an interview with police £250,000 was mentioned.

Mr May was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment by Mr Justice Milmo, who told him: "You operated with considerable skill". The judge made a criminal bankruptcy order against him.

Mr Feder said that Mr May would wait for the train he had selected to stop at a deserted country station and under cover of darkness run across the track, climb on board and escape with his haul to a car.

Mr May, of Bicknor Road, Maidstone, Kent, pleaded guilty to eight charges of stealing mailbags and insurance stamps from mail trains between January 1 and May 31, 1974. Beside him in the dock was his wife Joan, aged 43, mother of six children.

Mr May, who also admitted assaulting a police officer and dishonestly receiving stolen goods, and asked for 22 other offences to be considered, concentrated his operation on three stations: Winchester, Haywards Heath, Sussex, and Swadland, Kent.

He was caught last November when his wife tried to cash a counterfoil of a naval allotment allowances book at a post office in Folkestone, Kent. Mr May had taken the book from a mail bag he stole from a train at Winchester. But the book had been cancelled and post offices were sent a "stop" notice.

Mrs May, who admitted offences concerning the cashing of the counterfoils, was said to have been dominated by her husband. She received a 23-month prison sentence, suspended for two years.

Students safe after being trapped in fells

Five Birmingham University students were found safe and well yesterday after an all-night search of the Derbyshire fells by mountain rescue teams.

The students set off from a youth hostel at Edale on Thursday morning to walk to the next hostel at Crowden, in the Longdendale Valley. When they had not arrived late on Thursday night the alarm was raised.

The students are Mr Ian Weir, aged 24, of Riefield Road, Eltham, London; Miss Sarah Green, aged 18, of Horseshoe Cottage, Ashampstead, Reading; Mr Stuart Noble, aged 19, of Nursery Road, Nether Poppleton, York; Miss Rowena Gibbs, aged 18, of Stocks Hill, Castor, Peterborough; and Mr Gerald Caesar, aged 21, of Ryalls Lane, Cambridge.

The police said that the students were well-equipped and had food, but the weather had been very bad, with heavy rain and high wind.

Tory plan to reduce taxes without big revenue cuts

A programme for reducing taxes without making any substantial cuts in government revenue was put forward yesterday by Mr Maurice Macmillan, a former Conservative Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

He pointed out in a speech at Farnham that if all tax rates above 60p in the pound were abolished, it would reduce the tax yield by under £175m, less than an increase of 1p on the standard rate of tax.

That, he suggested, was not very much when compared with the gain from giving everyone "a real incentive to clear little bit extra, and the gain from taxes paid by the talented and retired who are reluctantly being driven into tax exile now".

Mr Macmillan very much doubted if such a cut in tax would lose a single penny after the first year. "After a bit, the effect could be a higher yield in total from a lower rate of tax on individuals."

Water authority compromise on Kielder dam

From John Chartres
Gosforth, Northumberland

The Northumbrian Water Authority decided yesterday to adopt a third plan for the controversial Kielder reservoir scheme. They will retain a secondary dam to hold water in the upper reaches during drought periods.

A proposal earlier this year to eliminate the relatively small Bakethin dam from the scheme, to save about £3.5m of the estimated cost of £100m for the whole project, led to protests from residents and conservation interests.

It also resulted in Sir Alan Marre, Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman), being asked to inquire into the validity of the project, because objectors said that the modifications proved their point that the Kielder scheme was not necessary.

Yesterday the authority settled on a compromise to build a simpler, cheaper dam at Bakethin.

The modification will still save about £1.3m and the board's engineers say that it will prevent the creation of unsightly mudflats

Stop brooding on father's death, baronet is told

Sir Yvo Robert Henniker-Heaton, son of a former RAF security chief, was told by Mr Neil McElligott, presiding at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, to stop brooding over the circumstances of his father's death and to get on with his life.

Sir Yvo admitted stealing a wallet from a squash racquets club changing room and attempting to use a cheque card from it.

His father, Sir Peregrine Henniker-Heaton, died two years ago. His skeleton was found in a little-used room at the family home in Ealing, London, after he had been missing for some months.

Sir Yvo, aged 21, of Woodville Road, Ealing, described as being of private means, told the court that he had been having medical and psychiatric attention because of strain arising from the uncertain circumstances of his father's death.

Mr McElligott remanded him on bail of £200 until April 23 for reports to be compiled after hearing that he was fined £125 last month for deception offences.

Union executive to fight its president in court

By Paul Routledge

The left-wing-dominated executive of the largest Civil Service union, the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA), decided yesterday to fight a legal action being brought against leading officers of the association by Mrs Kay Lozinska, its president.

Admitting for the first time the existence of an open breach within the leadership, the executive said there was a dispute over an article written by Mrs Lozinska in *Reader's Digest* about growing left-wing influence in the Civil Service.

Mrs Lozinska issued a writ this week seeking an injunction to restrain the union from publishing in its journal, *Red Tape*, a reply to her article. The action will be heard in the High Court on Tuesday.

After yesterday's emergency meeting of the executive, called to "review the position", it issued a statement saying it had been decided to "defend the association" at the hearing. The decision was taken without a vote.

The article planned for *Red Tape* is understood to have argued strongly against Mrs Lozinska's view that some of the industrial action experienced in the Civil Service in recent years had been politically motivated.

Union aid sought in print dispute

The Newspaper Publishers Association yesterday asked printing union leaders to use their influence to help to resolve a dispute in Fleet Street. Electricians on the *Sunday People* are making an indirect claim for a substantially shorter working week in defiance of the pay restraint policy.

Electricians had threatened to rearrange work schedules so that 300,000 copies of the paper would be lost.

Noise nuisance 'should be cut by new aircraft'

By Our Air Correspondent

The introduction of quieter aircraft should mean that the number of people near Heathrow airport, London, who were badly affected by noise would be reduced by a quarter by 1980, the British Airports Authority said yesterday. By 1985 there should be a reduction of more than half in the numbers affected.

The forecasts were contained in a report on a master development plan for Heathrow drawn up by the authority. The report said that even with the reduced rate of growth of air traffic, Heathrow would not be able to meet the expected traffic levels beyond the early 1980s.

To relieve the pressure at the airport, arrangements were being discussed to transfer traffic to Gatwick. But it was expected that by 1983 the spare capacity at Gatwick would not be sufficient.

Heathrow would therefore require further development, including a fourth passenger terminal, which would increase its capacity to about 38 million passengers a year. The fourth terminal would be located within the airport boundary on the south side, but its precise building date would depend on the rate at which Gatwick's spare capacity was taken up.

Because of the limited capacity of the central area at Heathrow, the introduction of a traffic control system on the M4 is proposed in the report. That would require drivers bound for the centre to pay according to the time spent there.

McWhirter fund award over shot Tubedriver

The Ross McWhirter Foundation made its first award yesterday for "good, active and courageous citizenship" to the family of Mr Julius Stephen, the London Underground train driver, who was shot dead while chasing a gunman after a bomb shattered his train at West Ham last week. The award is for £250.

After Mr McWhirter who, with his twin brother edited the *Guinness Book of Records*, was murdered at his home by a gunman in November, the fund was set up with a target of £100,000. It now stands at £50,000, Mr Ralph Harris, the fund secretary, said yesterday.

Commander Roy Habershon, head of the Scotland Yard bomb squad, assured the coroner at Hornsey, London, last week that "ultimately, certain persons will be charged with causing Mr McWhirter's death".

Dock work Bill 'a threat to the economy'

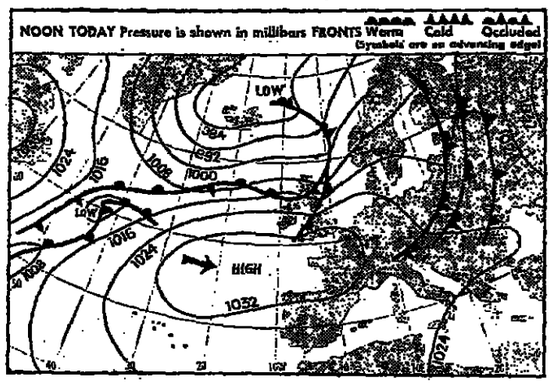
By Our Labour Staff

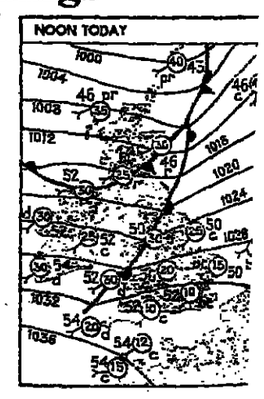
"Mini-amendments" to the Dock Work Regulation Bill would in no way alleviate the undoubted damage the Bill would do to the economy and exports, a leading road haulier claimed last night.

Mr John Silbermann, vice-chairman of the Road Haulage Association, said: "It is impossible to overstress the damage that this measure will do when it becomes law and when the substantial territory lying within five miles of our shores and waterways is made the exclusive happy hunting ground for dockers."

He said it was remarkable that so little attempt had been made to justify it. "Who is going to benefit? Perhaps a few hundred; even a couple of thousand dockers, whose future even without the Bill does not seem all that depressing."

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 6.47 am Sun sets: 7.26 pm
Moon rises: 5.14 am Moon sets: 4.25 pm
New moon: March 30.
Lighting up: 7.56 pm to 6.15 am.
High water: London Bridge, 12.14 am, 6.1m (20.0ft); 12.53 pm, 6.6m (21.7ft). Avonmouth, 6.14 am, 11.6m (38.1ft); 6.37 pm, 12.8m (38.6ft). Dover, 10.11 am, 5.7m (18.7ft); 10.30 pm, 5.9m (19.2ft). Hull, 5.9 am, 6.2m (20.3ft); 5.18 pm, 6.3m (20.7ft). Liverpool, 10.19 am, 8.3m (27.1ft); 10.48 pm, 8.3m (27.1ft).

Tomorrow

Sun rises: 6.45 am Sun sets: 7.27 pm
Moon rises: 5.36 am Moon sets: 5.30 pm
Lighting up: 7.57 pm to 6.13 am.
High water: London Bridge, 1.13 am, 6.6m (21.6ft); 1.44 pm, 7.0m (23.0ft). Avonmouth, 7.0 am, 12.3m (40.4ft); 7.18 pm, 12.5m (40.0ft). Dover, 10.54 am, 5.9m (19.4ft); 11.11 pm, 6.1m (20.1ft). Hull, 5.53 am, 6.3m (21.3ft); 5.59 pm, 6.6m (21.7ft). Liverpool, 11.3 am, 8.6m (28.3ft); 11.25 pm, 8.6m (28.1ft).

Pressure will remain high to the S of the British Isles while a deep depression moves E between Scotland and Iceland. Troughs of low pressure will move E across most parts during the day.

London, SE, central S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Bright at first, becoming cloudy, mainly dry; wind SW, becoming W, moderate or fresh; max temp 11°C (52°F).

W Midlands, Channel Islands, SW, NW, central N, NE England, Wales: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain and hill fog, bright intervals later; wind, SW, veering W, fresh, occasionally strong or gale; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain and hill fog; wind S, becoming W, strong or gale; temp 10°C (50°F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with rain and hill fog, becoming brighter, occasional snow showers on high ground; wind S, veering W, strong or gale, occasional severe gale; max temp 7°C (43°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Mostly dry, rather cold, with sunny intervals in S, but rain in N will spread S later, followed by colder, showery weather.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am pm, 12°C (54°F); min 7 pm 7 am, 9°C (48°F). Humidity pm, 88 per cent. Rain, 24 hr 7 pm, 0.04in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 5.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 1,025.1 millibars, rising.

1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F		C	F		C	F
Aberdeen	s	10	50	Cardiff	s	11	52	L Palmas	f	19	66	New York	s	17	63
Alghero	f	16	61	Cologne	r	10	50	Lisbon	s	14	57	Nice	s	14	57
Amsterdam	r	10	50	Copenhgn	r	6	43	Locarno	s	14	57	Oslo	c	4	39
Athens	s	17	63	Dublin	r	9	48	London	s	11	52	Paris	s	11	52
Barcelona	s	16	61	Edinburgh	r	7	45	Luxemburg	c	8	46	Prestwick	r	7	45
Beirut	s	22	72	Florence	s	17	63	Madrid	s	16	61	Reykjavik	r	2	36
Belfast	s	9	48	Funchal	s	17	63	Majorca	s	18	64	Rome	s	13	55
Berlin	r	10	50	Geneva	s	13	55	Malaga	s	19	66	Salzburg	s	12	54
Biarritz	s	15	59	Gibraltar	s	16	61	Malta	c	17	63	Stockholm	c	3	37
Birmingham	s	10	50	Guernsey	r	11	52	Manchstr	r	9	48	Tel Aviv	s	19	66
Bristol	r	10	50	Helsinki	c	0	32	Moscow	s	1	34	Tunis	s	15	59
Brussels	r	10	50	Innsbruck	s	11	52	Munich	s	9	48	Vienna	s	12	54
Budapest	s	8	46	Jersey	d	10	50	Naples	r	16	61	Warsaw	c	6	43
												Zurich	r	10	50

Overseas selling prices

Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, Br Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, Dkr Finland, Fmk 2.50; France, Fr Germany, Dmk 0.80; Greece, Holland, Dfl 0.75; Italy, Lire 350 Lanzarote, Pes 40; Madeira, Esc Malta, 9d; Norway, Kr 4.00; Po Spain, Pes 30; Sudan, P Tax 30; Switzerland, Sfr 0.70; Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Di

X-ray theatre rules to be tighter after fatal error

Procedures in all hospital neuro X-ray theatres are to be tightened as the result of a mistake at Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, that led to the death of a woman, aged 31. Wakefield Area Health Authority said yesterday that the results of an inquiry into the death would ensure that a similar accident did not happen again.

A mistake involving two dishes on a tray in the darkened theatre led to Mrs Margaret Lunn, mother of two, of Gordon Street, Wakefield, being given a fatal injection. Admitted to hospital suffering from headaches caused by a suspected brain haemorrhage, she was injected with what was believed to be fluid dye for X-ray tests, but was later discovered to be cetrimide, an antiseptic.

She collapsed, and died a few days later without regaining consciousness.

The authority report cleared medical staff of criticism. The error arose "from a variety of individually minor factors which combined to produce tragic results". It said. "Death resulted from the erroneous injection of the disinfectant solution."

It added: "Procedures which are carried out in a darkened neuro X-ray theatre have been improved, and a committee of medical and nursing personnel will be set up to keep this and similar procedures under constant review."



The wreckage of the coach which crashed while travelling to Glasgow.

Woman dies as coach overturns

A woman passenger died and 19 others were injured when a coach crashed on the A74 Carlisle to Glasgow road yesterday.

The single-deck coach, which was travelling from Manchester to Glasgow, overturned on the icy road near Beattock Summit, about 60 miles south of Glasgow.

Police officers said that 13 of the injured were discharged after treatment at Law Hospital, Strathclyde.

The accident happened as the coach was overtaking a lorry. Police say it skidded or slewed on the icy surface and struck the central reservation before overturning. It occurred five miles north of the spot were 10 people died last year after a lorry hit a coach carrying pensioners to Brighton from a Scottish holiday.

The woman who died was Mrs Helen Lindsay, aged 31, of Plymouth Grove, Longsight, Manchester. She had been travelling with Mr Allan Cameron to see relatives at Port Glasgow. The couple had been planning to marry soon.

Mr Cameron, lorry driver aged 27, said: "It was terrible. There was nothing I could do for her. I was starting to doze off and the next thing I remember was people screaming and shouting. When I looked up, the coach was going straight through a fence, then we were upside down.

"I was thrown into the middle of the roadway, but I could see Mrs Helen was trapped, and there were a few other people."

Another passer-by, Mr Hudson Cairns, aged 40, of Baird Avenue, Airdrie, ran almost two miles to help, but found two telephone boxes had been vandalized before he was able to stop a car.

Social tensions could bring loss of freedom, BBC chief says

From Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent
Cambridge

A warning that a much more authoritarian style of government might take over in Britain if tensions in society became more acute, was given yesterday by Sir Michael Swann, chairman of the governors of the BBC.

He told the Headmasters' Association annual conference in Cambridge: "Only the next stages of the fight against inflation will tell. For so powerful is their concern for order and stability that societies will go to almost any lengths in sacrificing freedom to achieve that end, even if they come later, and too late, to regret their decision.

"However unlikely we think these gloomy predictions may be, I am left with the feeling that it would be wise for us educators and broadcasters to do what we can to preserve and justify the concept of freedom."

Sir Michael referred to the recent interview on television with Alexander Solzhenitsyn. The question, as he said, was not how the Soviet Union would find a way out of totalitarianism but how the West would be able to avoid the same fate.

He was less sanguine that the tradition of parliamentary democracy and a free society was so strong in Britain that we need have no fears for the loss of freedom, Sir Michael added.

Ever since the Second World War the volume of legislation, the size of the Civil Service, the number of executive decisions and the sheer extent of government control had grown, and there was no sign of the trend being reversed.

"As chairman of the BBC I cannot but be aware of the extent to which elements within politics, industry or society at large would like to curb and control this most mass of the mass media to their own advantage."

The BBC was periodically threatened with dismemberment, the creation of superbodies to keep it in order and the loss of its independent sources of finance. The Government, without any constitutional change, could determine the nature of the whole broadcasting output.

He urged headmasters to give their pupils a sense of history, because everyone should have some idea of how our society had progressed compared with totalitarian society. It was even more important to teach them a critical understanding of the English language, which was being appallingly manipulated for all sorts of undesirable ends.

Sir Michael regretted that he had not learnt either of those things at school. He was educated at Winchester College.

Earlier Mrs Mary Warnock, research fellow at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, gave the conference a strong hint about the likely outcome of the government inquiry into the education of the handicapped, of which she is chairman.

Emphasizing that she was visional capacity, she strongly in favour of continuing to have separate schools for handicapped children in spite of much evidence submitted to the committee which took for granted that total integration of the handicapped into ordinary schools was the best thing.

Europoll rigged, says Mr Mayhew

Mr Christopher Mayhew, formerly Labour Minister of Defence for the Navy, last night accused the Government of planning "a grotesque piece of gerrymandering" in the European elections in 1978.

Now the Liberal parliamentary candidate for Chesham, he told a party meeting at Amersham, Buckinghamshire: The country is to be arbitrarily divided up into 67 new constituencies, each returning one member on the first-past-the-post system, so that even if the Liberals again win 20 per cent of the poll . . . they will be totally excluded from the European Parliament.

"I think Liberals should make it clear that we will boycott a rigged election."

The European Parliament is supposed to represent European political opinion, and electoral systems which favoured certain parties at the expense of others violated the spirit and intentions of the Treaty of Rome, he said.

WT EUROPE

Defiant Moluccans sentenced to 1years' imprisonment for kling hostages in train hijack

... Holland, March 26.—Se South Moluccan guerril:shoured a traditional bacry in court here today afseing jailed for 14 years folling three hostages in a trnijacking in Holland last Dober.

guerrillas, who want in-dence from Indonesia for thancestral homeland, held 2ssengers hostage at gun-p in a 12-day siege of the n They are regarded as hs by most of their 40,000 cuniots in Holland.

e seven were found guilty murder, manslaughter and ial possession of firearms la three-man bench which d them two weeks ago.

hey listened impassively ay as Judge Frans Flick d out the verdict. Then they ed out battle cries to relaes in the heavily-guarded urtroom. Their families immetely returned defiant chants. At the three-day trial the errillas admitted shooting a driver and two hostages er seizing the train.

The seven, sons of soldiers in e former Dutch East Indies colonial army, said in court that they bore full and equal responsibility for the shootings, but had acted out of purely political motives.

The judge said justice had to be enforced, but added: "The Dutch authorities will have to do everything in their power to understand the position of the South Moluccans living in Holland. On the other hand, the South Moluccans will have to recognize the limitations and obstacles lying in the way of their independence ideals."

Two days after the train siege started, another group of seven Moluccan guerrillas stormed the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam and took 43 people, mostly Indonesians, hostage. They released some of their hostages, including 16 children, but held 25 captive for 15 days before surrendering to hundreds of troops and police.

At their trial which ended in Amsterdam yesterday, the public prosecutor demanded sentences of seven and a half years, but expressed admiration for what he called their courage and willingness to sacrifice themselves for an ideal. The court will deliver its verdict on April 8.

Both the train hijackers and the consulate gunmen said they staged their attacks to draw world attention to their independence struggle and demanded that Holland lend its support to their cause of a "free republic of the South Moluccas".

The Moluccan community in Holland feels betrayed by the Dutch who allowed Indonesia to take over the 150 Moluccan islands in 1949 when it gained independence. The young Moluccans have never forgiven the Netherlands for breaking a promise to ensure the islands' right to self-determination.

The Moluccans, negroid in appearance and ethnically different from the Indonesians, insisted on maintaining their cultural identity and have never given up their ideal of an independent homeland—a demand long-dismissed by the Dutch Government as a forlorn hope.

About three million people live in the South Moluccas, south of the Philippines and west of New Guinea.—Reuter.

Nordic call on Britain to pull back warships

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

A call by the Nordic countries to Britain yesterday to pull its warships out of Icelandic waters to assist a peaceful settlement of the cod war was treated with reserve in London.

In a communiqué at the end of their conference in Stockholm, the foreign ministers of Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark and Iceland expressed their anxiety about the fishing limits dispute.

The Foreign Office commented last night that the only reason the Royal Navy was needed to protect trawlers fishing in international waters was because of unlawful harassment by Icelandic coastguard vessels. If Iceland ceased its harassment, the Navy could leave.

In the British view, this kind of move is not the nub of the problem, even if a withdrawal could be arranged. The real problem is to persuade the Icelandic Government to negotiate. After all, British warships withdrew before to no effect.

A British frigate and an Icelandic coastguard vessel were involved in another collison yesterday. HMS Galatea was "grazed" on her starboard bow by the Baldur. The Galatea has a 2ft square hole well above the water line, a Navy spokesman said.

There were no casualties, and each side blamed the other for the incident.

Ex-minister in Lockheed investigation

From Our Correspondent
Rome, March 26

Signor Mario Tanassi, a former Defence Minister and a Social Democrat, was today formally declared under investigation in connexion with the Lockheed corruption case.

The Rome public prosecutor investigating the Lockheed scandal sent Signor Tanassi a notice saying that he is under investigation. The notice serves as advice to engage a lawyer and does not amount to a charge.

At the same time the prosecutor's office announced that as a former minister was under investigation the findings on the Lockheed case were being handed over to the parliamentary investigation commission.

The commission's permission is required before proceedings can be taken against ministers in connexion with alleged offences committed while in office.

The investigations concern the purchase by the Italian Government of 14 Hercules long-range military transport aircraft.

Signor Tanassi said earlier today: "The case against me was taken on suspicions against me are absolutely unfounded and libellous".

General Duilio Fanali, former Air Force chief-of-staff, and two Rome lawyers, alleged to have acted as go-betweens for Lockheed, are under arrest accused of extortion.

Lome convention facing financial threat

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 26

Six days before its formal entry into force the EEC's ambitious Lome Convention, which offers aid and trade on special terms to 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, is facing serious difficulties, M Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner responsible for aid and budgetary matters, admitted here today.

There was a real possibility that the claims for 1975 on the Srabex fund, which is designed to stabilize the export earnings of ACP countries, would exceed the resources available, M Cheysson said. The EEC also had to reckon on "very difficult" price negotiations next month with ACP sugar producers.

Of the 12 basic products covered by the Stabex system, timber was giving the most cause for concern. The ACP countries' export earnings had suffered a sharp decline because of falling sales of wood to the Nine owing to the recession in the building industry.

The full extent of the claims for compensation from the main timber producers, Congo, Gabon and the Ivory Coast, would not be known until about the middle of next month, he said. There was some evidence of a pick-up in sales in November and December, but the claims would certainly amount to "a very considerable figure".

Sugar is covered by a separate protocol of the Lome Convention. The Community does not want to pay ACP producers any more than it will be paying its own this year, but the Lome countries claim that this would reduce their sugar earnings by 75 per cent because of the very high prices they received last year (one of exceptional shortage) from British refiners.

The ACP countries say that such a drop in their returns, combined with a 33 per cent increase in production costs, would be disastrous.

Spain closes its priests' prison

Madrid, March 26.—The Franco regime's special prison city of Zamora, at the northern today was emptied announcement.

The last two prisoners remaining in the unique jail were quietly removed this morning and taken elsewhere to complete their sentences.

France protests over spy ship

Paris, March 26.—France protested to the Soviet Union last week after a Russian spy ship was spotted off the Atlantic based, it was stated today.

The Soviet vessel disappeared north-eastwards towards the channel after the protest was delivered.—Reuter.

Liberal parties of EEC form federation

From Dan van der Vat
Baden Baden, March 26

Representatives of 14 Liberal parties from eight of the nine EEC countries met in Stuttgart today to form a Liberal Federation.

Only Ireland, which has no Liberal party, was not represented at the federation's constituent assembly. This marks the first move so far made towards a Community-wide political movement in preparation for direct elections to the European Parliament, due to take place in 1978.

The host for this assembly, which ends tomorrow, is Herr Genscher, the Bonn Foreign Minister, who is also chairman of the West German Liberals, the Free Democratic Party.

The British delegation is headed by Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal Party leader, who is accompanied by Mrs Margaret Wingfield, the party's president.

The main items on the agenda include the adoption of a "Stuttgart Declaration" to mark the federation's creation, and of a constitution.

Some domestic air fares to be increased

Fares on many of the minor air routes within Britain will rise by between 5 and 30 per cent from April 1, the Civil Aviation Authority said yesterday.

The increases were sanctioned by the authority for 12 airlines to meet the national rate of inflation and increases in landing charges, navigational charges and fuel costs during the past year.

From April 1 the London to Newquay tourist single fare will rise from £17.50 to £18.40, Prestwick to Dundee from £11.20 to £12.40, Belfast to Edinburgh from £14.50 to £16.40, and Isles of Scilly to Penzance from £5.80 to £6.70.

Judge criticizes sex prosecution

Mr Justice Melford Stevenson criticized at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday the bringing of a prosecution against a man aged 18 for having sexual intercourse with his girl four months before her sixteenth birthday.

He told John Marshall, of Manor Road, Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire: "She was not only willing but enthusiastic. You did what almost anybody would have expected you to do." Mr Marshall, who had pleaded guilty, was given an absolute discharge.

M Giscard pays tribute to Ld Montgomery

Paris, March 26.—President Giscard d'Estaing paid tribute today to Field Marshal Lord Montgomery.

In a message of condolence to the field marshal's son, Mr David Montgomery, M Giscard said: "We learnt with sadness of the death of your father, Field Marshal Montgomery of Alamein.

"France does not forget the part played by this great soldier in the last war and more particularly during the liberation of France.

A war leader assessed

How great was Lord Montgomery as a war leader? The question has been raised again since his death this week. In the *Sunday Times* tomorrow, Sir Denis Hamilton draws on his close friendship with the field marshal over more than thirty years to try to put the record straight.

Company and directors who sold scrap metal outside EEC are fined £254,250

An Oxford scrap metal firm and three of its directors were fined a total of £254,250 at Oxford Crown Court yesterday.

The case involved 128 shipments of scrap metal from Britain to Spain via Belgium in 1974, when there was a ban on movement of the material from the United Kingdom to countries outside the EEC.

Hurford-Jones Ltd was fined a total £211,000 and David Hurford-Jones, aged 42, its managing director, of Alvescot, Oxfordshire, was fined a total of £38,000.

Nigel Rupert Clarkson, aged 38, a director of Windrush, Burford, and Crispin Welby, aged 36, also a director, of Bedwell Heath, Boars Hill, were fined £3,000 and £2,250 respectively.

Afterwards Mr Hurford-Jones said: "I and my company have been totally destroyed for doing something that was wholly beneficial to United Kingdom interests and not harmful to any interest in the United Kingdom or abroad."

He criticized the Customs and Excise, who brought the case. "I can only think that it is part of the horror of the massive, faceless bureaucracy we live under today", he added.

Mr Christopher French, QC, for the defence, had told Judge Mynett, QC, that no harm had been done. Had the firm known or suspected that any harm would be done they would not have got involved. They also believed they were within the law.

The judge said estimates of the profit involved varied between £260,000 and £800,000, according to the prosecution. At any rate, it was substantial.

The two men most concerned with the illegal shipping, he said, were Mr Hurford-Jones and Raymond George, a Belgian director of the company. The other two directors had had no part in the initiation of the scheme.

The judge said Mr George had taken an active part in the day-to-day running of the company, but added: "He may or may not come to stand his trial."

The company and the directors were found guilty on six counts, two charges of conspiring to evade the export ban between 1973 and 1974; two charges of conspiring to allow documents showing a false destinations of cargoes to be delivered to the customs and excise; and attempting to evade the ban between December 2 and 7, 1974; and allowing a document showing a false cargo destination to be delivered to the Customs and Excise on December 5, 1974.

The prosecution said the scrap was exported quite legally to Belgium, where a Belgian company sold it back to Hurford-Jones Ltd so that it could be bought by Spain. When the ship docked in Belgium, its papers were transferred and it was sent on to Spain without its cargo ever going ashore.

The prosecution said documents led Customs officers in Britain to believe the cargo's last port of call was Zeebrugge, in Belgium. A total of 70,000 tons of scrap went to Spain, where it was sold for about £4,600,000.

The firm of Hurford-Jones is going into liquidation and there is to be a shareholders' meeting on April 21.

Unfair dismissal: Crispin Melville Welby, of Boars Hill Oxford, director of Hurford-Jones Ltd, who lost his job after a government embargo on scrap sales to countries outside the EEC, was entitled to redundancy pay and compensation for unfair dismissal, an industrial tribunal has ruled.

The suddenness of the dismissal of Mr Welby last July was "entirely contrary" to the accepted code of practice, the tribunal president, Mr Edward Seeley said. Compensation for unfair dismissal should be limited to £540, one month's net pay.

Our Industrial Correspondent writes: Embargoes were placed on the export of scrap to EEC countries and to third countries in 1973-74 to conserve scrap supplies to meet the demand from the United Kingdom steel industry. Later, exports to EEC countries were authorized, subject to the granting of export licences. Most of the scrap exported in that period, according to trade sources, was low-grade material for which demand from United Kingdom steelmakers was low.

Soares warning on dangers to democracy

From Jose Shercliff
Lisbon, March 26

Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist Party leader, appealed today to the people, political parties and trade unions of Portugal to join in a social pact. He warned them of dangers threatening democracy in the country.

Speaking at a press conference, he said a peaceful atmosphere was needed for the general election on April 25, but "certain political groups" were trying to impose their ideals on the national interests at this crucial moment.

To this end they had instigated social agitation aimed at disturbing the atmosphere in the country, engineered strikes and accompanied them by pessimistic and sensational reports in the media.

"This strategy may endanger not only the forthcoming elections, but beyond that the very existence of democracy in Portugal."

Support for EEC direct elections

Bonn, March 26. — The leaders of the French Socialist Party and West Germany's ruling Social Democrats today come out strongly in favour of direct elections to the EEC Parliament in Strasbourg.

CM François Mitterrand, the French Socialist leader, had a three-hour meeting here with Herr Willy Brandt, the former Chancellor, who leads the Social Democrats.

Healey letter of praise used in battle to save La Scala and its American tour

Victory at hand for Milan opera

From Peter Nichols
Milan, March 26

The masterly campaign conducted by Dr Paolo Grassi, the general administrator of La Scala, not only to impose recognition of the famous opera house's unique rights to help from the state but to prevent the threatened resignations of Claudio Abbado, the musical director, tonight looks set to carry the field.

Dr Grassi remains indignant at the lack of artistic sensibility on the part of the Italian Government. It seemed set to close La Scala, as well as force a humiliating cancellation of the company's visit to Washington which was to mark Italy's contribution to America's bicentennial celebrations.

In the wake of La Scala's London triumphs, he is able to brandish a splendid letter of praise from Mr Healey, with the copy of a note from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Signor Emilio Colombo, the Minister for the Treasury, which Dr Grassi says shows what artistic appreciation is to be found among British politicians in comparison with their Italian counterparts.

Mr Healey's letter was indeed helpful. In the friendliest "My dear Emilio" style, Mr Healey expresses his thanks to Signor Colombo for agreeing to finance the La Scala season at Covent Garden.

"The British newspapers were full of the visit for 10 days. It was an exceptional success not only for music-lovers, but for all who care for the friendship between Italy and Britain. It is a pleasure for us to be able to cooperate with one another for once on questions which give direct enjoyment to our two peoples", he writes.

Dr Grassi made no secret of his pleasure at the arrival of this letter in the midst of his fight for preserving La Scala's international reputation, especially after the Italian Government had forced the cancellation of the forthcoming season in Washington for lack of extra funds necessary to cover the costs which had risen because of the dramatic devaluation of the lira.

Dr Grassi fought his battle on two fronts. The first was to ensure the financing of the present season by convincing the Italian Government not only to give La Scala its due subsidy under the new legislation for financing Italy's opera houses, but to table a special law to give La Scala an extra payment because of its position.

Under the present law for opera houses, La Scala, like the rest of them, would be bound to produce a balanced set of budget estimates in order to be eligible for the subsidy.

In La Scala's case, the subsidy amounts to 9,500m lire (£6.6m), which, Dr Grassi says, would scarcely cover salaries.

The impression of victory which is now taking shape is strengthened by the fact that all parties in Parliament have agreed to back the special law providing for an additional sum to cover La Scala's deficit. In return Dr Grassi is expected to produce a budget which showed no deficit. The hidden but necessary sum which would relieve him from raising new loans is in the region of 2,000m to 4,000m lire (£1.4m to £2.8m).

This solution will be discussed on Monday night at a meeting of La Scala's board of governors.

The second front is, of course, the visit to Washington. News of the cancellation of La Scala's 15 performances at the bicentennial celebrations came as a serious shock to the Americans.

Mr John Volpe, the American Ambassador in Italy, has been consulting the American organizers of the visit to find a solution. The idea they have proposed to the Italians is that one half of the extra funds would be found by private subscription in the United States if the Italians agreed to produce the other half.

Dr Grassi says he did not ask that La Scala be invited to Washington. He was mystified that the Italian Government should have cancelled the visit, and in such an abrupt way. He does not see why they should not find the money required to fill the gap left by the falling value of the lira. And he thinks it will probably be forthcoming. An announcement is expected on Tuesday.

Closed shop 'threat' to freedom of periodicals

By Our Labour Staff

The Periodical Publishers Association has told the Royal Commission on the Press that a closed shop in journalism would pose a threat to the editorial freedom of periodicals which was just as serious as that to newspaper editors.

Mr Marcus Morris, chairman of the association's editorial committee, said closed shop provisions would limit an editor's freedom of decision and choice in commissioning contributions.

In the past, Mr Morris said, when editors were members of the National Union of Journalists they were in a special category of associate membership, which meant they were not subject to the disciplines and decisions of the union. "Now, in a closed shop, they would be, or certainly could be subject to those considerations and could be expelled from the union for disobeying its instructions.

"If an editor was so expelled, he would be unable to get any job in a closed shop."

He maintained that the union's ability to dictate on coverage of social issues would severely restrict an editor's freedom to choose what should and should not go into his magazine, and "destroy the most important function of a good editor, his editorial judgment".

Mr Morris said that if the editor's freedom of choice of contributors was restricted, many specialists and professional magazines would be unable to survive. They relied on experts such as doctors, who could not be members of the NUJ as journalism was not their main source of income.

Woman shot at hotel dies

Mrs Barbara Gaul, the former fashion model, who was shot outside a Brighton hotel in January, died in hospital yesterday.

Two London brothers have been committed for trial charged with the attempted murder of Mrs Gaul.

Booker Prize judges

Mrs Mary Wilson, wife of the Prime Minister, will be one of the judges for this year's £5,000 Booker Prize, the National Book League said yesterday. The others are Mr Francis King, the novelist, and Mr Walter Allen, the critic.

Chairman elected

Mr Michael Forsyth, aged 21, a social science student at St Andrews University, was elected chairman of the Federation of Conservative Students at its annual conference

French clocks get out of time

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 26

The French Government will be watching closely in the next few weeks how the public reacts to the experiment beginning at 1 am on Sunday through the introduction of French Summer Time. Clocks will be advanced one hour on French standard time, or two hours on Greenwich Mean Time. France will then be one hour ahead of British Summer Time.

The Government has already announced that the experiment will be reviewed before next year in the light of criticism both at home and abroad and especially in West Germany, Switzerland, and Belgium, who will not be following suit.

The European Parliament has already said that Europe's inability to agree even on Summer Time is "intolerable".

M Pierre Daninos, the creator of "Major Thompson", writing in *Le Figaro* said he had been unable to ascertain from both the public authorities "and the secret services" on both sides of the Channel who had been responsible for changing the clocks five times from spring to autumn this year between "BST" and "FST".

But the responsibility on the French side seems to be that of the Agency for Economies in Energy, set up after the 1973 energy crisis and coming under M Michel d'Ornano, the Minister of Industry and Commerce.

The agency reckons that France will save 1 per cent on its energy bills through the lighter evenings. But the estimates have been contested by Electricité de France, the electricity board.

Those crossing frontiers are obviously the most disgruntled. Tourists who miss a connexion may protest loudly. But those who go daily to work in another country really deserve sympathy.

Many French workers from Alsace work for much higher wages in Germany or Switzerland. M Simon Kessler, the president of their national committee, has already written an open letter to President Giscard d'Estaing appealing for "special protection" against the adverse effects of French Summer Time.

Crossing the time zone every day to work could cause trouble and be a welcome excuse to foreign employers to dismiss the French workers in uncertain economic times, M Kessler points out.

Two French gambling casinos whose clientele is Swiss are taking no risks. They will adjust to Swiss hours.

Tunnel builders link up under the Alps

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, March 26

Swiss engineers today pierced the last layer of rock separating the northern and southern preliminary excavations for a 10-mile road tunnel deep inside the St Gotthard massif.

Only the drilling for the small security tunnel, running parallel to the main one, has been completed. About 3,100 yards of the bigger tunnel have still to be excavated in the southern sector.

Linking Göschenen and Airolo, the tunnel is due to open for traffic in 1980. It is costing at least £100m

OVERSEAS

Angolan refugees fear massacre after S African protection of their camps ends today

From Nicholas Ashford
Calai, Southern Angola,
March 26

Four thousand Angolan refugees living in two South African-run camps in southern Angola face an uncertain future when the last South African troops withdraw from the territory tomorrow.

For the past seven months South Africa has been providing food, shelter and, most important of all, protection against the ravages of the Angolan civil war. Tomorrow that protection will disappear and the refugees, most of them black, will be on their own. They will be defenceless against the armed bands which have been roaming round the country and at the mercy of the left-wing Popular Front (MPLA) forces who are shortly expected to occupy this region.

Many of the 2,000 or so people in Calai camp, just north of the Kavango river which divides Angola from South-West Africa (Namibia) are members of the rival National Front (FNLA) movement which was soundly defeated by the combined MPLA-Cuban forces. They include two ministers, Mr Jacob Isaac and Mr Vicente Domingos, in the former coalition government which was established in Huambo last November in partnership with the pro-Western Unita movement.

About 100 miles to the west at Cuangar another 2,000 refugees, most of them members of Unita will also lose their South African support tomorrow. Seven of their leaders have sent a letter to the South African Government giving a warning of the "disastrous consequences" which face both groups of refugees when the South Africans leave and demanding that they be given political asylum in Namibia until they are able to return to Angola again.

Today a group of journalists was taken by the South African defence force to visit the refugees at Calai prior to the troops' departure. We were greeted by about 800 men, women and children who cheered and chanted slogans expressing gratitude for South Africa's humanitarian assistance and demanding support from the international community.

Although the visit was clearly designed to reflect well on South Africa's handling of the refugee situation, there can be little doubt that their assistance has helped to prevent a great deal of human suffering. Equally, there can be no doubt that the refugees are very frightened about what will happen after tomorrow.

General Victor Kamburu, head of the refugee committee at Calai, feared a massacre when the MPLA took over, saying that the advancing MPLA-Cuban forces had committed similar atrocities in other parts of the country. Although there is litle evidence that the MPLA has acted in such a way, this fear appears to be widely held among the camp's inhabitants.

General Kamburu said he intended to flee into the bush when the South Africans left. He is likely to be followed by many others. Some, however, are still hoping to cross the 200-yard-wide river into South-West Africa even though the South Africans are closing the ferry.

Two whites, Senhor Camilo Branda and Senhor Raul Bastos e Silva, said they wanted to be allowed to go south for a limited time until they could return to their families in Angola. In all, there are about 200 whites in the two camps who did not take advantage of the refugee airlift to Portugal earlier this month.

The South Africans certainly expect some of them to cross to the south bank of the river, although Colonel L. van Niekerk, the local commander, said the Kavango was "fast flowing and full of crocodiles". One of his colleagues, Colonel Johan van der Spuy, added: "We shall try to dissuade them from coming across. But we are not going to shoot them back."

Strictly speaking, the question of dealing with an inflow of refugees lies with the government of the Kavango tribal homeland which borders this part of southern Angola. Mr Alfons Majavero, the Chief Minister of Kavango, said today that his government was sympathetic to the refugees' plight but his country was small and poor and could not accommodate them. He hoped the United Nations would be able to do something.

So do South Africa and the refugees themselves. Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Defence Minister, announced yesterday that his government had appealed to the world body for the fourth time to "take up its responsibilities towards these people." The South Africans are bitter and with some justification, that the United Nations has done nothing while they have received blame and abuse for being in Angola at all.

The refugees also want to see an international force take over from the South Africans. The International Red Cross, they point out, can provide food and shelter, but not protection, and has no arms of its own. But international intervention at this late stage seems unlikely and, as one of the FNLA ministers remarked: "The world has betrayed us once and will do so again."

Arabs deride US veto of UN censur

From Peter Strafford
New York, March 26

Last night's American of a Security Council re tion criticizing Israel's h viour in Jerusalem and West Bank has produced s sardonic comments. The sians and several of the Ar pointed to the contrast tween the veto and the spe earlier in the week by William Scranton, the Am can representative.

Mr Mowaffak Allaf, Syrian representative, had s last night that the terms of resolution were in line w Mr Scranton's speech. T resolution had been modified to gain the widest possible sup port, and he considered that the final version fully met American conditions.

Mr Zehdi Terzi, the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, attributed the American veto to domestic political considerations. Mr Terzi is not a man who minces his words, and he asked whether the American wanted to turn the council into "a public convenience during an election year".

The main points of the resolution were criticism of Israel for taking measures "aimed at changing the physical, cultural, demographic and religious character of the occupied territories and, in particular, the city of Jerusalem", for establishing Israeli settlements, and for "other violations of the human rights of the inhabitants".

In an explanation of his veto, Mr Scranton said that he could not accept the accusation that Israel was following a policy of changing the religious character of Jerusalem: on the contrary, Israel's actions had minimized tensions there. In more general terms, he did not believe that the resolution would help the search for peace in the Middle East.

In his earlier statement, Mr Scranton had been sharply critical of Israeli settlements, both in Jerusalem and on the West Bank, describing them as illegal and an obstacle to peace. These comments caused a shocked reaction in Israel, and led to a well-publicized protest to Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State.



Mr Scran... the American delegate, eyeing members of the Security Council as they voted to censure Israel. A few moments later he vetoed the resolution.

There were also domestic repercussions. For instance, Senator Henry Jackson, now campaigning for the Democratic nomination for the presidency, was sharply critical of Mr Scranton's original speech. Mr Jackson was speaking on a visit to the lower East Side of New York last night.

No one had expected the Americans to vote in favour of the resolution, but there had been some hope that they would abstain. In the end, however, they were the only country to vote against it, with the 14 other members of the council voting in favour.

Moshe Brilliant write from Tel Aviv: Mr Rabin the Prime Minister, said tonight that the veto did not reduce the gravity of Mr Scranton's statements attacking Israeli settlement in occupied Arab areas and disputing Israeli sovereignty over all Jerusalem.

Interviewed on television, the Prime Minister said the veto showed that the United States had been convinced by Israeli protests. He agreed that Mr Scranton had not broken new ground but he said the timing, the place, the style and the cumulative effect of his statements were damaging. By supporting the Arab position on so many points, Mr Scranton's speech had stiffened the Arab position and reduced their readiness to compromise.

But the Prime Minister assured Israelis that no speeches or declarations could alter the fact of Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem. "It will continue for generations," he said. Moreover, Jewish settlement in the occupied areas would continue to be determined by Israel's political and security considerations.

Vienna: The Palestine Liberation Organization is ready to discipline any Palestinians taking part in terrorist activities, Mr Abdul Jayyab, a PLO official, said today.

4,000 held in massive Argentine 'clean-up'

From Our Special
Correspondent
Buenos Aires, March 26

The first reports of political violence and left-wing guerrilla activities since Tuesday's coup emerged in Argentina today as the new military junta lifted press censorship and announced that it would stay in power for at least three years.

Ten deaths were reported in various parts of the country since the armed forces took over and placed Señora Isabel Perón, the deposed President, under house arrest in a lakeside residence in the Andean foothills.

Informed sources said, however, that only three of the deaths were directly connected with the massive "clean-up" operation which the military have been carrying out since the coup. Some 4,000 arrests have been made so far, including many prominent Peronists, who are accused of corrupt activities under the previous Government.

Two people were killed in a 20-minute gun-fight yesterday at the Communist Party headquarters in the capital, when Marines went there to seize party documents.

Retired Army Major Bernardo Alberte, the personal representative in Argentina for the then exiled General Perón from 1968 to 1970, was reported to have fallen to his death from a window as he tried to escape troops sent to arrest him.

The other deaths were a result of the continuation of the vicious political assassinations by both right and left-wing factions which plagued Senora Perón's 21-month rule. A policeman was shot from a passing car in a Buenos Aires suburb; two bullet-riddled bodies were found in the industrial city of Cordoba, and four left-wing guerrillas were shot dead by police in a town near Cordoba after they commandeered a milk lorry, intending to distribute its contents to slum-dwellers.

But apart from these isolated shootings the country remained calm, and banks and schools were allowed to reopen for the first time since the coup. Although the wave of arrests appears to be massive, the military are insisting that it is aimed at "delinquents of all kinds, economic and social". The Army is trying to avoid giving the impression of a vendetta against the Peronist movement.

Many of the detainees are being held on a ferry boat in the port of Buenos Aires. Among the latest prominent Peronists reported to have been seized are Señor Raul Lastiri and his wife, and former President Héctor Cámpora.

Dr Cámpora, elected President as General Perón's standin in 1973, is anathema to the military for having freed all captive left-wing guerrillas when he assumed power. Señor Lastiri, who became interim President when Dr Cámpora stepped down to make way for Perón, is the son-in-law of Señor José Lopez Rega, the disgraced former Social Welfare Minister and a close confidant of Señora Perón.

Last night, the Army announced that a large cache of arms had been found in the Social Welfare Ministry's basement. The find caused little surprise here after revelations in recent months that Señor Lopez Rega, now living in Spain, formed the nucleus of the "Triple A" right-wing death squad during his term at the ministry. The squad, and its branches throughout Argentina, is believed to have murdered hundreds of left-wingers over the past two years.

The junta has also begun a purge of civil servants, magistrates and diplomats. The "professional qualifications and morals" of magistrates and diplomats will be scrutinized.

In the civil service, employees considered to have been "associated with subversive or disruptive activities" will be dismissed. Some civil servants have been placed under arrest.

On the political front, the junta added to its list of banned political parties five small Marxist and Maoist parties. The Moscow-oriented Communist Party is not among them.

The junta, which according to reliable sources is still in the "military phase" of its carefully planned takeover, has not yet revealed detailed policies on economic or social affairs. Nor has it indicated when the promised nomination of a president, expected to be an Army general, will take place.

It has announced, however, that the members of the junta will be renewed after three years, and has set up a board of nine officers to advise it on legislation.

Africans 'to attack Smith economy'

Maputo, March 26.—President Samora Machel of Mozambique said this week's meeting of four black African leaders in Zambia was to plan how to intensify the fight to bring down the white regime in Rhodesia.

In an interview with the *Noticias* newspaper, published today, he said he and the presidents of Zambia, Tanzania and Botswana had met to "plan a new, common strategy to intensify the armed struggle and to attack basically the economy of the illegal Smith regime; how to shake and destroy the economy of his regime."

On the aircraft back from the Lusaka meeting which ... yesterday, he told a *Noticias* correspondent that the fighting in Rhodesia would involve the population and bring about a revolution. "In short, it will be transformed into a prolonged people's struggle which will shock the white colonialist racist regime and bring about profound transformations."

President Machel was quoted as saying the four Presidents had also analysed "the reasons for the arrogance of Ian Smith—irresponsibility, sickness, madness or death pangs".

The meeting was held following the collapse of talks in Salisbury between Mr Smith and Mr Joshua Nkomo, the black nationalist leader. President Machel said Mr Nkomo, who leads the Rhodesian-based faction of the African National Council (ANC), and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who heads an ANC faction based outside Rhodesia, had only represented themselves at the Lusaka meeting. The future leader of Rhodesia would be elected by the people.

President Machel predicted that the armed struggle would bring a consolidation and unity which had not existed among the nationalist forces for many years.—Reuter.

Rhodesians warned of 'rough, tough year'

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, March 26

A Rhodesian Government minister said today that 1976 would be one of the roughest and toughest years in this country's history. There would be tremendous psychological and economic pressures but the Rhodesian Government was determined to guarantee a permanent home and equal opportunity for all communities.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr Edward Sutton-Pryce, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's office, said that regardless of the ravings and rantings and dire predictions of black nationalists the Government would not capitulate.

It would not abdicate its responsibilities for the well being of all the people. It would not allow a vacuum to develop in the political arena following the breakdown of the constitutional talks with the African National Council and what he called the weak and ineffectual response of the British Government.

"We intend to seize the initiative, to give a firm lead and to proceed with plans to capitalize on the vast fund of goodwill that exists between blacks and whites in Rhodesia", he said.

Mr Sutton-Pryce said a cold and logical appraisal of the facts gave him a real and calculated sense of optimism for the country's future. Anyone who underestimated the spirit of resilience of Rhodesians did so at their peril.

The minister estimated that there were about 700 guerrillas in the country; 500 in the north-eastern area and 200 in the east and south-eastern part. He refuted reports that there were 12,000 to 15,000 guerrillas training outside ready to come into Rhodesia. He estimated that there were about 6,000, of which only about half were fully trained.

Mr Sutton-Pryce denied all knowledge of tanks in Mozambique and said that anyhow the security forces had the ground and air means of dealing with tanks should they appear. He said guerrillas coming into the country were only using small arms and not sophisticated weaponry.

The minister was puzzled by the relatively few incidents which had occurred in the past few months despite the large number of guerrillas in the country. No white civilians had been killed, however, that since his last press briefing on March 9 a total of eight tribesman and tribeswomen had been murdered and others assaulted. Fourteen tribesmen and two tribeswomen had been abducted and three curfew breakers shot.

There had been cases of cattle slaughtered, buildings attacked, mining incidents, buses damaged, lorries burnt or robbed and aircraft fired upon. On three occasions there had been firing from across the Mozambique border. Since January 114 guerrillas and 14 members of the security forces had been killed. The general pattern of the guerrillas was one of hit and run.

The minister denied a report which appeared in *The Sunday Telegraph* last Sunday which said that a Rhodesian helicopter had opened fire by mistake on a platoon of British mercenaries serving with the Rhodesian forces and killed two. There were no platoons of British mercenaries and there had been no incidents of Rhodesian forces being killed as a result of fire from Rhodesian aircraft. Mercenaries were not accepted in the Rhodesian Army, only volunteers under the usual conditions.

New York plans more cuts in jobs and services

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 26

Mr Abraham Beame, the mayor, has plan for overcoming the city's financial problems and balancing its budget by the middle of 1978. The proposals involve a loss of a further 8,500 jobs and extensive cuts in a whole range of public services, from drug rehabilitation to education and rubbish collection.

The plan is expected to run into trouble, however, on the grounds that it does not go far enough. It assumes that the city will receive more assistance than it does now both from Washington and from the New York state government in Albany, and in neither case is this certain.

For instance, Mr Beame wants the federal Government to take over responsibility for welfare payments to people without jobs. (The city now pays a quarter, Albany a quarter, and Washington half.) He also wants the state to pay for the city's courts and jails, pointing out that New York is the only city in the state which [illegible]

The plan is, therefore, as much a political document as a financial one, and it is bound to be controversial. It has been presented to the Emergency Financial Control Board, which was set up by the state last year to take over the effective running of the city's finances from the elected city officials.

Mr Beame's plan is based on the assumption that there will have to be cuts amounting to $821m (£430m) in the two fiscal years beginning this July in order to get the budget back into balance.

The cuts will be made in such areas as education, the police service, the libraries, environmental programmes and drug addiction services. The hope is that only 1,500 people will actually lose their jobs, much of the savings coming from non-replacement of people who retire or leave.

France 'ready to supply arms to Egypt'

Paris, March 26.—France is ready to become a supplier of ground and air weapons to Egypt, M Yvon Bourges, the French Defence Minister, said today.

This was the main result of a week-long visit to France by General Abdel Ghani Gamassi, the Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of War, which ended today.

Egypt wants to diversify its arms supplies after the abrogation of the Soviet-Egyptian friendship and cooperation treaty. It is also seeking to set up its own armaments industry with support from Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

M Bourges told reporters: "We are not at the stage of precise details but we know the essential needs of the Egyptian Army and what France's participation will be."

He added: "Our participation will be aimed at the needs of the Army and Air Force. Our cooperation will be spread over several years."

General Gamassi, who saw President Giscard d'Estaing briefly today, declined to give any indications about the possible signing of a big arms deal with France.

France has already promised Egypt technological cooperation in setting up its arms industry, an $8,000m (about £4,000m) project.

General Gamassi saw the latest French military jets and attended tank and parachute manoeuvres in eastern France.—Reuter.

Ex-president is accused of subversion

Seoul, March 26.—The former Yun Po Sun, and a former presidential candidate, Mr Kim Dae Jung, were among 18 people charged today with attempting to overthrow the Government, the Seoul prosecutor's office announced.

Mr Kim was arrested with 10 other Christian dissidents on March 10 for issuing an anti-government statement, called "The Declaration of Democracy and National Salvation", on March 1.

Ex-President Yun was not under arrest but had been charged together with a former Foreign Minister, Mr Chyung Yil-Hyung, his wife, Dr Lee Tai-Young, and four others for their parts in the declaration.—Reuter.

Ford tribute to Reuters man in Washington

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 26

Mr John Heffernan, known to Presidents and colleagues as Pat, is retiring from Reuters at the end of this month, having served in the United States for the past 29 years, the last 19 as bureau chief of the British news agency in Washington.

Yesterday he received a farewell letter from President Ford, who saluted his "cogent and surefooted reporting on national developments" which, he said, "deserved and won the respect of all your colleagues".

He had several distinctions apart from his able reporting and administrative flair. He was—and remains—the only foreigner elected president of the National Press Club.

Bomb found outside Soviet office in New York

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 26

A time bomb was discovered yesterday on a fire escape outside the office of the Amtorg Corporation, the Soviet trade agency in New York. It was spotted by one of the agency's employees 12 hours after the police had carried out a check of the building in response to a bomb threat.

Responsibility for placing a bomb was later claimed by a militant Jewish group called the Jewish Armed Resistance.

The finding of the bomb comes at a time when there has been an exchange of protests between the Russians and the Americans over mutual harassment.

Moscow, March 26.—Tass said that the bomb had been hidden in a tool box in the basement of the building occupied by Amtorg.

It added that the directors of Amtorg "lodged a resolute protest with the United States

World flu experts meeting to discuss new virus

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, March 26

The World Health Organization is calling a meeting of international experts early in April to advise on what action may be required against the new strain of virus responsible for the recent influenza outbreak at a United States military camp where one person died.

In the meantime, strains of the new virus are being distributed by WHO's influenza centres to research laboratories so that its growth characteristics can be studied with a view to vaccine production.

A WHO statement said the new strain "satisfies some of the criteria associated with pandemic strains".

The statement continued: "Despite this, it is impossible at this time to predict whether it will spread since from previous experience it is known that some strains spread rapidly and others do not. The cases due to the new strain at the camp were no more severe than those due to the current strain which was in the camp at the same time."

WHO pointed out that the virus discovered at the camp could only be presumed to be similar to the one which was thought to have caused the 1918 epidemic.

"The evidence . . . is indirect and depends on the presence of antibodies in people living at that time", it said. "No influenza virus was isolated in 1918, the isolation technique then being unknown."

Widespread vaccination in the country where the strain had first appeared could, obviously, greatly reduce the risk for the rest of the world.

Dr Kissinger rules out a 'crisis decision'

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 26

Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, today admitted there was no urgency requiring a "crisis decision" on American action towards Cuban intervention in southern Africa.

He told the Senate foreign relations committee that the Administration's review of contingency planning, much emphasized in the warnings given to Cuba and the Soviet Union with increasing intensity these past three months, was a "precaution".

The Senate foreign relations committee today had its first opportunity to question the Secretary of State, particularly concerning the Pentagon's official admission yesterday that the Joint Chiefs of Staff were reviewing the military plans.

"It is impossible to imagine a time when the Joint Chiefs are not reviewing their contingency planning", he said.

Mr Callaghan 'made talks impossible'

Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, was accused yesterday of having made the resumption of talks on the future of Rhodesia virtually impossible.

Mr Julian Amery, the Conservative MP for Brighton, Pavilion, said at a meeting in London that Mr Callaghan had "insulted Mr Smith and called for his regime to surrender unconditionally". He had cut the ground away from under the feet of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Hanoi and Saigon seats to be contested in poll

Saigon, March 26.—Seats will be contested in both Hanoi and Saigon in the Vietnamese general election on April 25, the official press reported in Saigon.

It said that in Hanoi, which would be the nation's capital after formal reunification, 28 candidates would contest 21 seats. In Saigon, there were already 43 candidates for 15 seats, including 13 women.

Candidates included workers, farmers, soldiers, intellectuals, students, two Roman Catholics, two Chinese, a journalist, a businessman and a Buddhist.

Food shortages are affecting thousands of people in the Nghia Binh province of south Vietnam. Local authorities say that two thirds of the land is uncultivated mainly because of defoliation by American troops.

Mr Nguyen Nham, deputy chairman of the Nghia Binh People's Revolutionary Committee, said that the problem was aggravated by recent bad harvests and poor irrigation.

The committee encouraged people to eat rice mixed with sweet potatoes after reports that 30,000 people out of the province's 1,800,000 population were badly affected by food shortage.

"Toxic chemical products from defoliation conducted by American imperialists were the main reason why the surface of land was left uncultivated", he added.

Government employees, students and other youths are working to repair irrigation systems which were almost completely destroyed by ground fire and bombings.

Hundreds of soldiers and local people are also repairing roads, bridges and railway lines. The local authorities said they were in great need of manpower.

Most of the 84,000 soldiers of the former regime of President Nguyen Van Thieu have been granted citizenship rights after undergoing "re-education" courses.

Mr Van Thanh Tich, chairman of the Provincial Council, said that only a small number of senior officers of the former regime were still in detention because they owed the people a "blood debt".

The authorities have converted former night clubs, which were reserved for American forces, into entertainment centres with table tennis and billiards.

There is no curfew and restaurants, coffee shops and theatres function normally in the main streets of Qui Nhon, the provincial capital.

Mr Tich said that plans were under way to convert Qui Nhon with its vast handy beaches into a tourist attraction after removal of the "thousands of graves" of soldiers and officials of the former regime.—Reuter.

Cautious US feelers to North Vietnam

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 26

An approach to North Vietnam to open exploratory talks on normalizing relations was somewhat reluctantly confirmed today by the State Department. The reluctance results from the uncertain effect on the election campaign. Mr Ford's challenger, Mr Ronald Reagan, is expected to complain over such dealings.

Helping the Administration, however, is deeply conservative pressure, particularly in the South, to have North Vietnam "account for" the several hundred Americans missing in action.

It is an emotional issue. There is no belief that any are still alive, but North Vietnam did not comply with the Paris agreements in accounting for them any more than it did with the other parts of the "peace" agreements. North Vietnam is understood to be seeking "reparations" which, for the Ford Administration, is out of the question, considering the North's invasion of the South.

McCartney magic

Los Angeles, March 26.—More than 36,000 tickets for two concerts to be given by Paul McCartney, the former Beatle, in Los Angeles next month were sold out within three and a half hours yesterday.

Sir John Kerr jostled by protesters

Canberra, March 26.—Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General of Australia, and his wife were jostled today by a crowd of about 500 students, protesting at his dismissal of Mr Gough Whitlam's Labour Government last November.

Sir John and Lady Kerr were attending a function at the Australian National University here to mark the retirement of Sir Morrice James, the British High Commissioner to Australia.

There were further violent scenes when Sir John and Lady Kerr left the function. Stones were thrown at his car and one missed him by inches. Sir John appeared shaken by the hostile reception. Several of the demonstrators threw punches at the Governor-General although it was not clear if any connected.—Reuter.

Island leaders agree to end secession

Port Moresby, March 26.—Mr Michael Somare, the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, told Parliament today that his Government had reached agreement with a separatist political group to end the attempted secession of the island of Bougainville.

The secessionists had wanted eventually to link up with the British Solomon Islands.

Mr Somare described the agreement as "the last chance of settling this problem without a direct confrontation". He read a statement from the Bougainville secessionist leader, a Roman Catholic priest, Father John Momis, who said the Bougainville leaders accepted the Government's proposals as long as a final agreement was completed by the end of the year.—Reuter.

'Cape Times' centenary

From Our Correspondent
Cape Town, March 26

The *Cape Times*, South Africa's oldest daily newspaper, is celebrating its centenary tomorrow. It was founded by Frederick York St Leger, an Anglican clergyman who was born in Limerick, Ireland, and educated at St Paul's School and at Cambridge where he was a gold medallist in classical studies.

He retired as editor in 1385 in favour of Edmund Garrett of W. T. Stead's *Pall Mall Gazette*.

The *Cape Times* was at a low ebb during the Anglo-Boer war of 1899-1902. It was at first without an editor and was then, briefly, in the hands of an unsuitable editor before Maitland Hall Park arrived in 1902 from the *Allahabad Pioneer* in India. Park was appointed on the recommendation of Rudyard Kipling, and quickly pulled the paper together, restoring its reputation for independent, authoritative news and comment.

Park and the *Cape Times* did much to create the atmosphere in which South African union became possible in 1910. Park was knighted in 1914.

He was succeeded in 1921 by Basil Kellett Long, who had been foreign and dominions editor of *The Times* in London. Long's editorship was notable for the eloquence and fire of the leading articles.

George Wilson followed Long as editor in 1935 and Wilson was succeeded by Victor Norton, who served from 1944 to 1971. The present editor is Anthony Hazlitt Heard, a member of a South African newspaper family.

Since 1948 the *Cape Times* has been strongly opposed to many of the policies of the successive National Party governments of Dr Malan, Mr Strijdom, Dr Verwoerd and Mr Vorster.

Dr Sakharov's defender loses his post

Moscow, March 26.—A Soviet academic who wrote to *The New York Times* in January defending Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident physicist, has been dismissed from his post as senior research fellow at the Moscow Institute of Linguistics.

Dr Igor Melchuk, aged 43, said today that the institute's academic board decided yesterday to deprive him of the fellowship by 19 votes to two. The director of the institute had maintained that his letter "besmirched our country".

Dr Melchuk told foreign correspondents: "The whole session was a monstrous farce. I've had 20 years of work at a scientific institute . . . and no one had the courage to stand up and say a good word for me".—Reuter.

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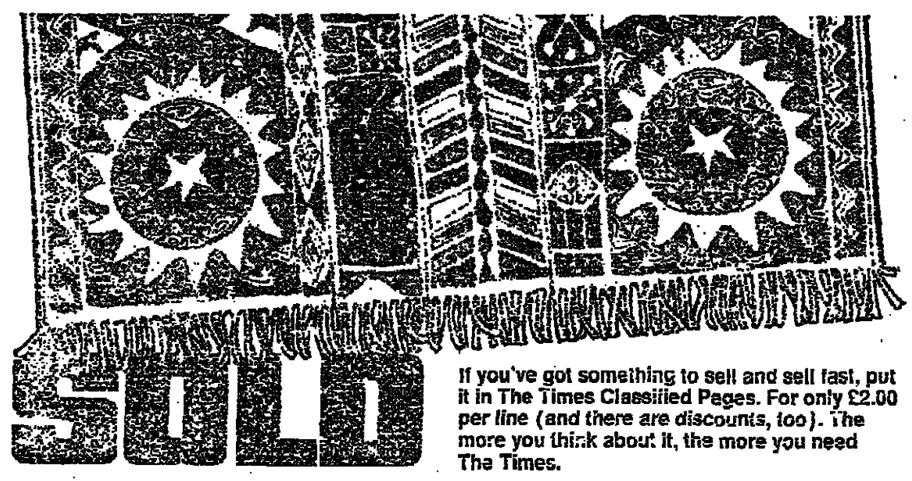
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THE TIMES
SATURDAY REVIEW

The Court of King George

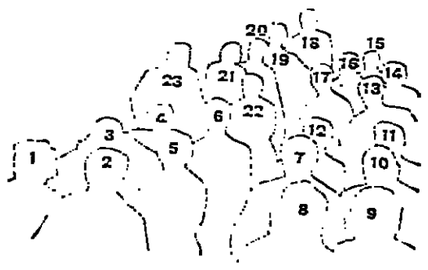
by Irving Wardle

On Friday the English Stage Company will be 20 years old. From the time of its initial discovery of John Osborne, it has been the focus of more new plays, new directors, more rows, and more revolutionary hopes than any other British theatrical organization of the century. Its achievements on the stage of the Royal Court from the "Angry Decade" through to the time of Edward Bond and David Hare are familiar from Los Angeles to Tokyo. Its lesser known origins are described by our dramatic critic on the basis of material gathered for a forthcoming biography of George Devine, the company's first artistic director.



Lord Snowdon

The Royal Court 18 years ago: (1) Joan Plowright, (2) Anna Manahan and (3) Jacqueline Hussey, both in *Live Like Pigs*. (4) John Osborne. (5) Frances Cuka. (6) Tony Richardson, associate artistic director of the English Stage Company. (7) George Devine, the artistic director of the Company. (8) Mary Ure. (9) Alan Tagg, designing *Live Like Pigs*. (10) A. L. Lloyd, setting the ballads. (11) Alan Dobie, in *Live Like Pigs*. (12) Alex Jacobs and (13) Tom Maschler, compiling the Christmas pantomime. (14) Miriam Brickman, assistant to George Devine. (15) *N. F. Simpson*. (16) William Gaskill, director. (17) Michael Hastings. (18) Robert Shaw, in *Live Like Pigs*. (19) Anthony Page, co-directing it. (20) John Arden, the author, and (21) his actress wife Margaretta D'Arcy. (22) John Dexter, directing *Chicken Soup with Barley*. (23) Wilfrid Lawson.



The year 1956 is the great watershed in our theatrical calendar, conventionally invoked as the magic moment when the laggard British stage entered the twentieth century, and justly credited as the starting point in the theatrical developments of the past 20 years.

For an outfit like the ESC, one of the most surprising things is that it is 20 years old and still in business. Modern stage history is largely a record of the gallant little companies that have raised the banner of artistic truth amid a wasteland of glittering trash. Such companies rarely last very long. It is the story of David and Goliath over and over again, with the hero all too often turning into the commercial ogre in the last chapter. The ESC was an obvious candidate for this fate. For years it lived on the borderline of financial extinction; and after its opening burst of energy, it was under the strongest temptation to adopt a star-based policy in alliance with the West End.

But whatever the quarrels with this or that aspect of its successive regimes, no one can accuse the Court of selling out. It has survived essentially intact, still pledged to the riskiest of all theatrical policies, the promotion of new writers. Next Friday marks the anniversary of an organization that was built to last.

Here again, there is a stark contrast between the ESC and its Continental and American forerunners. Rebel theatres are generally the creation of a visionary autocrat, like Copeau's Vieux-Colombier; or of an alliance between like-minded artists, such as the New York Group Theatre.

The ESC had no single creator, and its founders might be moved to bitter laughter at seeing themselves described as like-minded. They shared a dissatisfaction with the West End, and a determination to set up an alternative stage. Otherwise, they were divided by generation, class, political outlook, and aesthetic bias. And the coherent identity which the Court displayed in public was achieved against a background of internal rows that repeatedly threatened to tear the organization apart.

Among other things, it brought the English Opera Group in Devon, not to mention Joan Littlewood in *Mother Courage*.

But high on Duncan's list of priorities was the presentation of his own work: no easy matter, as commercial managements had no chance of recouping production costs in a fortnight's festival run. The answer, Duncan decided, was to set up *a company for the performance* of non-commercial plays: to which end he amassed a group of impressive names, drafted an appeal to the Arts Council, and began searching for London contacts.

Meanwhile, unknown to Duncan, another little cadre had entered the same field. This *consisted of the partnership* of George Devine, an actor and director of 25 years' experience, and Tony Richardson, a young television director who had not yet worked in the professional theatre. They were both former Presidents of the OUDS and members of the same college, Wadham (one contrast that developed between the Court and the Royal Shakespeare Company was their respective bias towards Oxford and Cambridge). But it was an alliance that surprised Devine's friends, since they knew him as a man who had always worked with the same team.

When Devine had come down from Oxford in the early *thirties, he had gone to live* with the three girls who collectively made up the design firm of Motley. The Motleys had a studio, which had once been Chippendale's workship, at the back of the Garrick Club, and they ran it as a *salon* for the acting profession. It was a great place for dropping in after a matinée, and the tea bill was rumoured to come to £100 a week. Devine's own stage career was slow to develop, but he was living in the midst of the most brilliant talent of the time. Originally this charmed circle was dominated by Gielgud. It then expanded to include the prophetic figure of Michel Saint-Denis, who had settled in London after the disbandment of his famous troupe, la Compagnie des Quinze. For Devine, the impact of Saint-Denis was something akin to religious conversion. He abandoned his job as the Motleys' business manager and his independent stage career, and followed the man whom, to the end of his

Young Vic (which Devine directed) and an experimental theatre which never materialized.

The collapse of the Centre was a prolonged and messy episode which, to this day, remains a skeleton in the Vic's cupboard. But when Devine emerged from this embittering experience in the early Fifties and resumed his freelance career, he was still working with members of the old team: Byam Shaw at Stratford, and Stephen Arlen at Sadler's Wells.

By now, however, he was sick of the classical establishment, and his alliance with Richardson amounted to a complete break with the past. Richardson, for all his inexperience, was no docile protégé. For one thing, he regarded Saint-Denis as a baneful influence; and he combined theatrical flair with a tenacious capacity for getting his own way, as he proved at the time of their first meeting in 1952. He invited Devine to play in a television adaptation *of Chekhov's An Actor's End*: when Devine refused, Richardson took him out for a drink and talked him into accepting the part; then, the day after the shooting, he rang Devine again and asked for his criticisms. From that moment, their relationship developed into an equal partnership with the aim of setting up a theatre of their own.

What precisely did they want from it? Richardson says that he was attracted by Devine's "vision of what the theatre should be in the largest sense." That vision still had a lot to do with Saint-Denis and the cult of style. But one definite point of agreement between them was that experiment should be conducted out in the open. Hitherto, the kind of repertory they were interested in had flared up as a brief exception in the West End or lived a hole-in-corner existence in little theatre clubs.

Practically every other European country had its Théâtre *Libre or Freie Bühne where a* regular public had been found for a regular programme of intelligent new work. In Britain, nothing essential had changed since Shaw's diagnosis in the 1890s of why sensible people steered clear of the West End's entertainment booths. Surely, by now, even the British were

straight commercial properties like the Royalty, the Kingsway, and the Royal Court. *In support* of their case, they prepared a nine-page memorandum detailing their general policy and repertory (including only two British writers out of a total of 21). They also thought they had a backer, in the person of a wealthy woman Richardson knew from the Oxford stage.

As Devine told the story, they went round to visit this patroness who "appeared in a kimono and we had brandies. Then Tony said, 'This is the man who is going to run the theatre'. Of course, the next day he got a letter saying, 'I have thought about it and I don't want to have anything to do with it'." However, if they had lost a backer, the partners thought they had found a theatre; and with £2,500 in the kitty and the hope of other support from elsewhere, they began negotiating for a short tenancy at the Royal Court.

Blitzed during the war, the Court had been leased to Alfred Esdaile, a retired music-hall comedian and inventor of the microphone that comes up out of the floor. Esdaile's general manager was Oscar Lewenstein, formerly a pillar of the left-wing Unity Theatre and editor of Unity's *New Theatre* magazine to which Devine was an occasional contributor. *Lewenstein coupled* Marxism with an acute business sense and a sharp instinct for securing options. He was as interested as anybody in creating an outlet for new drama, including his own properties. Esdaile's main interest was in sub-letting the building to someone who could pay the rent.

Unluckily for Devine and Richardson, the Court was then riding high with Laurier Lister's revue *Airs on a Shoestring*: and when they arrived to try to clinch the deal, Esdaile demanded a rental wildly beyond their resources. So, once again, the dream collapsed.

Duncan's party was also having its fund-raising problems, lacking the resources even to launch a touring company, let alone a continuous theatrical management. Lord Harewood says: "I then performed the greatest service I ever did for the ESC by refus-

from having backed some Cochran revues, he was not *known to have any interest in* the theatre. Duncan, not expecting much, took him to lunch: and by the end of the meal the ESC had changed from a provincial festival service into a metropolitan management. Blond was prepared to come in only on condition that the company leased a London theatre: *and, brushing Duncan's objections* aside, he went out to get one.

The theatre in question was the Kingsway, also controlled by Esdaile. Blond's method of acquiring it was to raise mortgages by using the building itself as security. He also breezed into Esdaile's office and *informed him that, as a member* of the ESC's governing board, he would be expected to guarantee £1,000 towards the purchase of his own premises.

With Blond's arrival as chairman in November, 1954, the next step was to equip the company with an artistic director, as none *of the existing members was a* practical theatre man. It was at this point that the two groups converged. Lewenstein, remembering the abortive scheme of the previous year, nominated Devine and went round to the Westminster Theatre to sound him out after a matinee of *Hedda Gabler*. There followed another lunch at which Devine gave the impression of being wholly in sympathy with Duncan's plans, stipulating only that he must have Richardson as his associate. With difficulty, the council swallowed this, and in March, 1955, Devine became the ESC's first artistic director at a salary of £1,560 a year. To the council, it must have seemed that they had appointed an able and responsible man who would carry out their wishes to the letter. "In those days", Lewenstein ruefully recalls, "we didn't realize all the implications of choosing an artistic director."

From Devine's personal correspondence, it is clear that he had little regard for Duncan's work. Writing to Saint-Denis in 1947, he dismissed the Mercury Theatre hit, *This Way to the Tomb*, as "a disappointment from almost every point of view. A promising modern poet, I should say, once more completely out of gear with dramatic expression." Duncan, with

tim of the blitz, the building was a derelict shell, its stage *open to the sky* and its auditorium full of rubble. The cost of renovation was estimated at £50,000; and to drive home the point to potential donors, Blond held a cocktail party amid the debris, decorated for the occasion with ladders and pots of paint.

Devine seized this as a *chance to enlarge on the com*pany's plans for touring arts festivals, taking English plays abroad, and encouraging new writers: while Blond, in manifest boredom, wandered round the party topping up the glasses and finally silencing his artistic director in mid-sentence.

Just as Devine had gone through the *motions of agree*ment with Duncan, so he accepted the snub from Blond, as a price of achieving his aims. "How many times", he said later on, "I had to eat shit to get what I wanted." He was not a devious man, but he had had a long apprenticeship in artistic politics, and he had seen ven*ture after venture wrecked on* inflexible manifestos or dissolving into compromise. His answer was to perfect a balancing act, by which he could make all kinds of temporary concessions without ever losing sight of his final objective. "I had learnt", he wrote, "that the theatrical profession was essentially conservative and not to be trusted to take collective action until it was too late. . . . Even in artistic enterprises, a certain kind of snob success is still essential." He wanted to change the face of the theatre, but "I know my own country, and I knew that to do this we ourselves had to become part of the Establishment against *which our hearts, if not our* faces, were set".

Unbending purity had been one cause of the Vic Centre's collapse, when its three directors resigned on a point of principle. For Devine, the lesson of that experience was "Never resign", and, from the moment he arrived at the ESC, his main *purpose was to survive*. "I was determined not to die."

Once the company was launched, this developed into a Trojan horse strategy towards the council and its wealthy patrons. If an artistic subcommittee were set up to vet the proposed plays, Devine would scrupulously observe its

theatre. If Ronald Duncan arrived from Devon bearing ominous manuscripts of verse dramas, these must be considered, perhaps even accepted: without Duncan there would have been no English Stage Company.

The company's discovery of its permanent base also illustrates these survival tactics. Between June and November, *the Kingsway estimates had* rocketed to £150,000, at which point Esdaile came up with an alternative proposal. Instead of the Kingsway, would the company be interested in leasing that illustrious home of Granville Barker and Bernard Shaw, the Royal Court Theatre? Blond asked Devine to inspect *the premises. So, he said,* "I went round, and the place was in a frightful mess. It was very poorly reinstalled. Esdaile kept saying, 'It's a lovely theatre, beautiful condition, the switchboard . . .' Well, you couldn't touch the switchboard without getting a 1,000-volt shock! There was water pouring through the roof. Then Blond said to me, 'What sort of a state is the place in?' I said, 'It's perfect, Neville, let's take it.' I wasn't really going to be fool enough to tell them what it was going to cost."

Diplomatic cunning was one side of Devine's policy. Another side was his extreme openness to new ideas. He started out with the intention of giving artistic leadership to the writer and healing "the divorce between the theatre of our time and the times themselves". That intention never altered, but he was ready to adopt any fresh way of achieving it; hence the perennial difficulty in defining Royal Court policy. People who *have complained* about its political inconsistencies or its employment of stars are demanding the very rigidity it took care to avoid.

When Richardson and Devine drew up their original plans they had no idea of what lay in store. At first, Devine was haunted by the ghost of the Vic Centre's experimental stage. He wanted a theatre that would simulate open-air conditions inside the confinement of four walls; and, at the Court, this took the modified form of a permanent stage surround, with masked exits, within which the actor could appear suspended in space. The other

existent theatre. Now he had such a theatre, but very few ex-Vic students set foot on its stage. Richardson, who did the initial screening, considered them unsuited to the Court's "realistic" repertory. "They were doing mime and sub-Copeau jumping about, which wasn't at all the kind of acting that was required."

Instead, the figure of the "redbrick" actor arrived on the scene, and by the end of the opening season the lingering influence of Michel Saint-Denis had been banished from the Court stage.

The one, and vitally important, exception to this rule was the theatre's backstage organization, which was Devine's concern much more than Richardson's. The technical team consisted of former students of Saint-Denis, incoming professionals, and indefatigable part-timers who would work until all hours in conditions of extreme discomfort. Devine, who in his time had sat up all night stitching costumes for *Richard of Bordeaux*, knew their jobs inside out; to all of them he paid the respect due to the "artist-technician", and made sure it was acknowledged by the rest of the company. As a result, a family spirit developed and remained buoyant in spite of the unremitting threat of financial ruin.

"The plays", Richardson says, "preceded the company". A curious collection, the plays of that first season: Angus Wilson's *Mulberry Bush*, the adaptation of Nigel Dennis's *Cards of Identity*, Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, and, quietly ticking away among them until its moment arrived, Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*. Out of some 750 *plays submitted to the ESC*, this was the only script that was so much as considered by the two directors.

There follows the story of Devine's trip to Cubitt's Yacht Basin to meet the penniless author, who heaved him aboard from a dinghy, dressed in a smart blazer and highly polished shoes. At which point the story turns into legend.

One part of that legend is that Devine did not realize what he was taking on when he accepted *Look Back in Anger*; and that once the flood-gates broke he was swept off his chosen course. Let Terence Rattigan, the voice of the old regime, answer that.

Gardening

Blame that old ene the sg

Most gardeners if they take the hobby even mildly seriously are aware of the important part the weather plays in the success or failure of their endeavours. In fact, more and more I become fascinated and progressively puzzled by the influence of the weather on our gardens and the plants we grow in them.

Recently I wrote about *Iris stylosa* (*I. unguicularis*) and how prolifically it has flowered in my garden and in the gardens of friends this year. This brought a letter from a reader in north-west London who says he picks the buds to open indoors and had 182 in 1972-73, 181 in 1973-74, only 46 in 1974-75, and 133 up to March 7 this year. He wondered why the crop of flowers was so poor in 1974-75.

I have found out that the only significant weather factors affecting those years are that in September, 1974 the rainfall was two and a half times the normal, and in October the soil temperature was 5 deg F below normal. I do not know when this iris initiates its flower buds. But I do know that slugs cause much damage to the buds, and as the rest of the winter period 1974-75 was fairly wet, we can assume the slugs were able to move about freely and had a high old time. They move easily over wet soil. They are also more active on warm nights.

I would like to think that as the bird population increases, as it has done with every mild winter—and we have not had a hard one since 1962-63—the slug population should be decreasing. But there is no evidence to support this theory.

Soil temperatures were above average for most of the winter, but now they are nearer normal after the colder weather, so do not be in a hurry to sow or plant, just because the soil is in a very easily workable and friable condition.

What is most worrying is the low state of our water reserves. It now seems that we are bound to have restrictions on the use of water for gardens and for washing cars. We may be lucky enough to have regular and adequate rainfall all through this spring and summer. This has happened before after a very dry winter. But if not, what can we do now to mitigate the effect of dry times and a restriction on watering?

We could install one or two large plastic barrels to catch and hold rain water from the roof. This at least would give us some water to put on seed beds or on newly planted plants. We could use such barrels to catch the bath water —a little do no ha

We ten just a aesthetic rob the s food. So when we it will b portant t by early by chemi

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ort of wat Normally I do not like to ds and the s apply a mulch of peat, sawdust, a gallon mushroom compost or suchlike are yard. It until much later in the month uing on t when the ground has begun to warm up as it tends to keep the sun from warming the soil. But this year as a precaution I am putting on my mulching material now having made sure that the ground is thoroughly moist and free from weeds. If you cannot apply mulching material to the soil, at least keep the moisture content up by watering whenever necessary. Most important is to apply water early enough. Many people do not think of watering until plants have reached wilting point and much damage may have been done by then. On my own quick draining soil, if we have seven dry days in April we start watering.

As I have often remarked, with our unpredictable and variable climate it makes sense to take precautions. If it turns out that they were unnecessary, we are still laughing.

Roy Hay

Chess

Varsity matches

At the same time as the annual chess match between Oxford and Cambridge universities was going on at Corpus Christi in Oxford last Saturday, a National Club Championship match between the Cambridge University Chess Club and Cheltenham was being played in another room of the college. The strength of the Cambridge Club was shown by the fact that it could afford to do without the undergraduate students who were playing in the university match and, confining itself to such graduates as Hartston, Keene and Stean, defeat the Cheltenham Club with the greatest of ease in a match that was of the last 16 in the National Club Championship.

It is indeed very striking that the three graduates mentioned, along with Miles (Sheffield University), Nunn (Oxford University) and Mestel, who was playing on top board for Cambridge in the university match constitute the English team for the Olympiad at Haifa later this year. Compare this with the team which represented us at the Folkestone International Team Tournament, and we find that that team contained only two players who had attended a university. It is true that English teams have always contained a certain proportion of university players, as might have been expected. But it is also quite clear that over the past 40 years the numbers of university players who have become leading British players have shown an extraordinary increase.

Of course it might be argued that the reason for this lies in the increased opportunities that everybody has nowadays of attending a university. But that is not the whole answer by any means.

Probably the popularization of chess which we have witnessed ever since those days of high drama and low torture that we saw at Reykjavik in 1972 has taken its easiest path of least resistance through the universities. This also has some bearing on the exceptional youth of our Olympic team. On Saturday Jonathan Mestel told me that when I wrote a couple of weeks ago about the youth of the team and specified that he, at the age of 19, was its youngest member, I was only just right in my statement of his age. He was, at that moment, 19 years and one day old.

To my surprise Jonathan was not engaged in writing a book on chess and I offer it as a money-making proposition to any forward, or indeed any backward, looking publisher that he might be tempted to write such a book entitled: *The First Eighteen Years of my Chess Career*. This should contain a selection of his best games from every year of his life and there would be ample scope for such ingenious comparisons between, for instance, the quality and style of his games at the age of 64 days and those of mine at the age of 64 years. At a venture, the standard should be about the same, with of course the proviso that, if Wordsworth is right, the games of the 64-day-old would come, trailing clouds of glory. Mine, alas, have long since faded into the light of common day.

While I would not go so far as to claim that the games I witnessed at the university match yielded some intimations of immortality, or that the teams on that occasion contained for sure some mute and as yet inglorious Fischers, I still maintain there were some visionary gleams. The spirit of *joie de vivre* in which the games were played was most refreshing. And if you want to experience the Aristotelian feeling of purgation through pity, just consider the Greek tragedy that was played out on board five. The Cambridge player planned to win and duly won a pawn, only to find the gods exacting vengeance with a thunderbolt of a Rook sacrifice.

This was the spirited game which the Oxford University fifth board won in the university match last Saturday.

White: D. R. Johnstone (Cambridge U). Black: M. J. Pitt (Oxford U). French Defence.

1 P-K4	P-K3	4 KtxP	Kt-QB	
2 P-Q4	P-Q4	5 Kt-KB3	Kt-B3	
3 Kt-QB3	PxP	6 KtxKt ch		

6 B-KKt5 at once retains more of the initiative.

6 . . . . KtxKt 7 B-Kt5

Capablanca's idea of 7 Kt-K5 is a good alternative.

7 . . . . B-K2 8 P-B3

An unnecessary pawn move; better is 8 B-Q3, and if 8. . . O-O; 9 Q-K2, P-QKt3; 10 O-O-O, when he is a tempo ahead as contrasted with the line actually played.

8	O-O	10 Q-K2	B-Kt2
9 B-Q3	P-QKt3	11 O-O-O	P-B4

Presumably a deliberate gambit, since if now 12 PxP, PxP; 13 BxP ch, when White wins the Queen for Rook and [illegible]

Unwise and risky, to say the least. He should play 13 BxKt, BxB; 14 B-K4, when 14. . . Q-B5 ch; 15 Kt-Q2, BxB, 16 QxB, QxBP; 17 P-B6, gives White a strong game.

13	PxP	15 B-B1	
14 K-Kt1	R-R4		

Black was threatening 15. . . BxKt; 16 QxB, RxB.

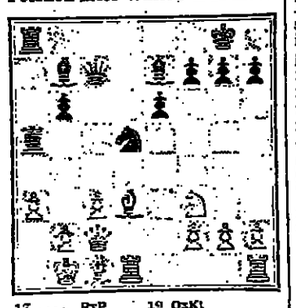
15 . . . . KR-R1 16 P-QR3 Kt-Q4

And now the threat is 17. . . KtxP ch; 18 PxKt, BxP with a winning attack. So White plays his Q to B2 in order to be able to recapture with the Queen.

17 Q-B2

No better is 17 K-B2, to which the reply would be 17. . . BxP.

Position after White's 17th move



17	RxP	19 QxKt	
18 PxR	KtxP ch		

Desperation; but if 19 K-R1, BxP; 20 BxB, RxB ch; 21 K-R2, R-R7 ch; 22 K-B1, RxQ ch; 23 BxR, KtxR; etc.

19	Q-Q2	21 Kt-K5	B-Q4
20 K-Kt2	Q-R4	resigns.	

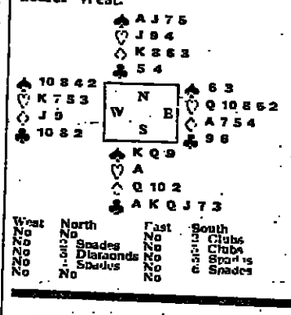
Harry Golombek

Bdge

All mater of timing

When you find yourself in the wrong contract the secret of success is to assume that distributions favour the line of play which will enable you to make it. The solution of many problems hangs upon timing, when it is wise to assume that a defender holds the same number of trumps as the declarer.

A typical example of misunderstanding in the auction occurs when partners miss a slam in a minor suit and arrive at an inferior contract in Hearts or Spades. The opener has probably forced the issue by a conventional bid when a superior opening was One Club or even One No Trump. No score; dealer West.



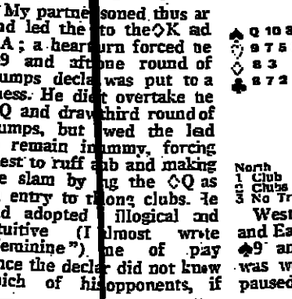
West	North	East	South
No	No	No	1 Clubs
No	2 Spades	No	3 Clubs
No	3 Diamonds	No	3 Spades
No	4 Spades	No	6 Spades
No	No		

In Clubs are 12 tric, but South the mistake giving his a preferen in Spades he could he rebid his p Club suit

East led ♡6 and Wt signalled w ♡7. Declar could not a to draw truns and run du clubs becae he had 11 s only unle the trumps e 3—3, whit he could se if they brte 5—1 agains the contrct must founde preciating ie odds, he c for a 4-2 trump breal proceeded o establish a ond trick e- fore drawin umps becase he could the e with a hert lead by ruffin dummy.

My partne soned thus ar and led the to the ◇K ad ◇A; a heart urn forced ne ♠9 and aft one round of trumps decla was put to a guess. He did t overtake he ♠Q and draw third round of trumps, but wed the lad to remain in ummy, forcing West to ruff and making the slam by g the ◇Q as an entry to t long clubs. He had adopted illogical and intuitive (I almost write "feminine") me of pay Since the declar did not know which of his opponents, if either of them, held four trumps, he should have led the ◇Q from dummy. If East won the trick North had an entry to his hand; if East refused the ◇Q declarer could draw four rounds of trumps and run the clubs.

By not cashing a winner in an established suit a defender can sometimes persuade the declarer that the suit is blocked and induce him to take a losing finesse. Before you can assert that the defence is incorrect you need to take the declarer's measure. North South game; dealer North.



North	East	South	West
1 Club	No	1 Spade	No
2 Clubs	No	2 No Trumps	No
3 No Trumps	No	No	No

West led the ♠2 to the ♠K, and East returned the ♠6 to the ♠9 and ♠10; a third spade was won by the ♠A and East paused for thought. Dummy's ◇A and ◇K had been discarded on spades, so it was fairly obvious that South would be relying on the clubs for his ninth trick unless he had four tricks in hearts.

East decided that his best chance of beating the contract lay in changing the suit because the declarer could not know that West had led from four spades only. He therefore returned the ♡10 and persuaded South to win with the ♡A because five tricks in clubs would give him game.

Declarer did not know whether East had blocked the spades or had switched to a heart in order to create a trick in West's hand. With nothing to guide him South postponed the crucial club play and first cashed his three diamonds. West discarding a heart and marking East with five diamonds. Declarer was now compelled to attack clubs and, concluding that East was short in the suit, he cashed the ♣K and finessed the ♣J. East's hand was high except for one card and West took the last trick with the ♠Q, so the declarer had succeeded in going down four tricks.

Edward Mayer

The Times Special Offer

In response to many requests asparagus plants and fruit cages. We are also pleased to be able to offer seakale plants, which have been very difficult to find in the past few years.

First, the asparagus. The plants are ready for despatch and will be sent as soon as possible, but the seakale plants will be dispatched in late May.

Again, it is the Regal strain of asparagus we offer, bred from selected male and female plants, and which produces fat sticks or spears. It is not to be confused with ordinary non-pedigree strains raised from seed harvested from unselected parent plants.

Since our last offer results of experiments at Luddington Experimental Station have shown that dramatic increases in yield are produced by close planting in the level ground, not in raised beds. Yields up to nearly four times the normal were obtained by planting in rows one foot apart, allowing one foot between the plants. A path 30 inches wide is left between each set of three rows. Thus, even in a small garden, you can grow quite a significant quantity.

Full instructions will come with the plants, but you may wish to prepare the bed by double digging, removing perennial weeds, and working in a generous dressing of organic manure.

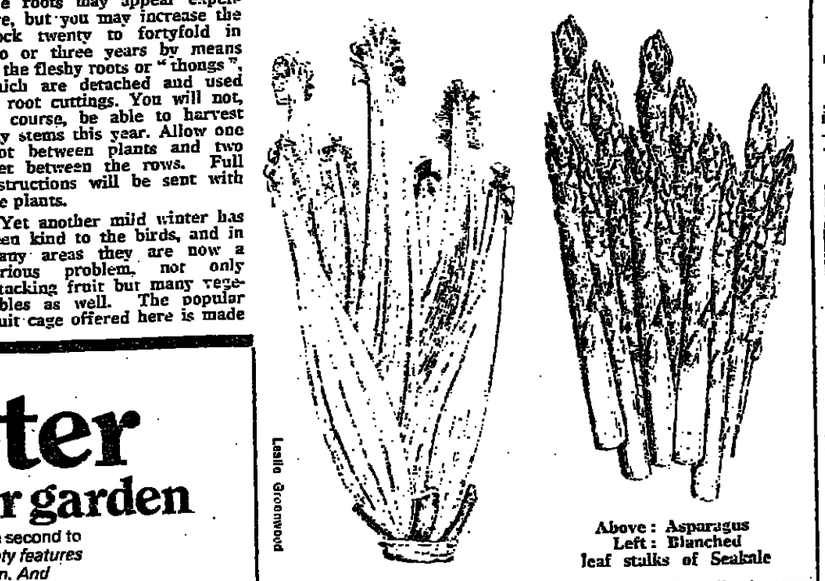
Seakale is undoubtedly a vegetable for the connoisseur. I put it right at the top, along with asparagus and succulent young peas. It has to be blanched, of course, and this means covering the plants with a large pot in January so that white tender stems are produced in April—or even earlier. You can cut for about six weeks. Then remove the pot and the plants will grow more stems. You can go on doing this for 10 years or more.

After two years you may lift some roots from November onwards for forcing in a greenhouse, cellar or dark cupboard in a temperature of 60°-70°F. The roots may appear expensive, but you may increase the stock twenty to fortyfold in two or three years by means of the fleshy roots or "thongs", which are detached and used as root cuttings. You will not, of course, be able to harvest any stems this year. Allow one foot between plants and two feet between the rows. Full instructions will be sent with the plants.

Yet another mild winter has been kind to the birds, and in many areas they are now a serious problem, not only attacking fruit but many vegetables as well. The popular fruit cage offered here is made of green plastic-covered uprights and cross bars, connected with plastic mushroom-shaped caps, smooth, so that they cannot catch or snag the net. The net is of strong, knotted weatherproofed synthetic fibre. My own net is nine years old and still quite sound. We live in the clean air of the country, of course, and we do pack the nets away as soon as the last crops have been gathered.

The roof net comes in one piece, as does the net for surrounding the sides of the cage. Special hooks for the net are hung to the cross pieces, and wire pegs are supplied to keep the net close to the ground preventing birds from creeping beneath it. No tools are required to erect or dismantle the cage, which is done very quickly. Sufficient net is supplied to give a generous overlap at the entrance, but as an optional extra a simple metal-framed net-covered door (illustrated) may be supplied, which saves a little time when entering and leaving the cage.

R.H.



Leslie Groomwood

Above: Asparagus
Left: Blanched leaf stalks of Seakale

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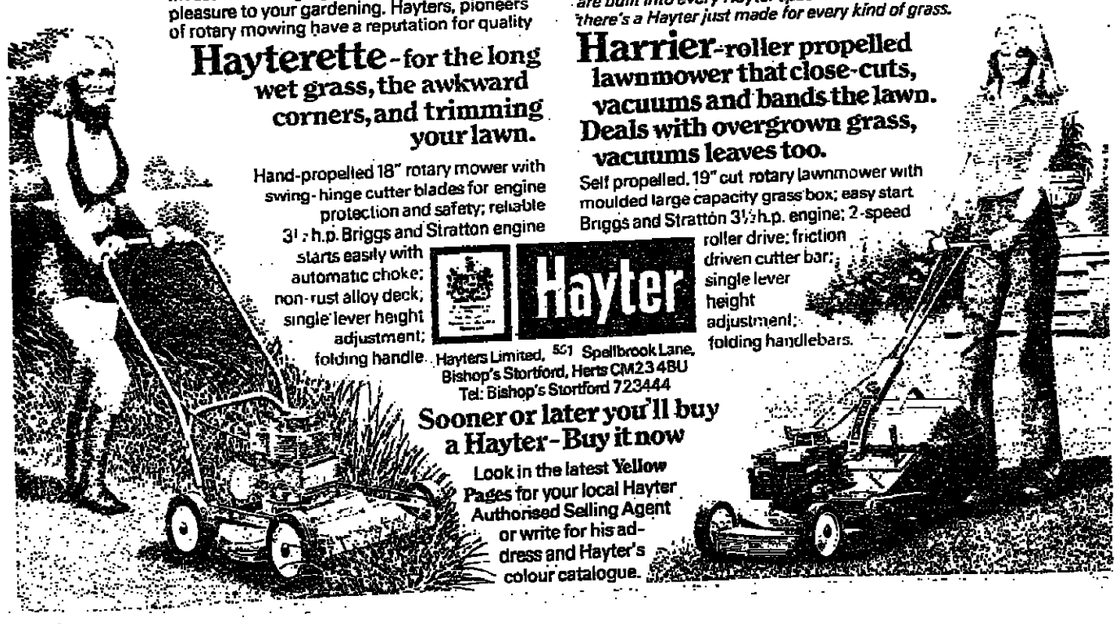
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"Most ... fine vastly entertaining, brilliant comedy." S. Times. "More good [illegible] than any other play in London." Obs. [illegible] Seats from £1.50. Dinner Show £5.35

NATIONAL TH.—See under Lyttelton.

PALACE. 437 6834. Mon. to Th. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 6.0 & 8.40
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

PHOENIX Theatre Season 1976 FOR 7 WEEKS ONLY Evenings 7.45. Mat. Thur. Sat. 5.0
GLYNIS JOHNS LOUIS JOURDAN
"A superb example in the art of [illegible]"—Daily Mail
13 RUE DE L'AMOUR
"Bedroom farce at its funniest."—People. Book Now [illegible]

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. Today 5 & 8.15. Mon. to Fri. 7.45. Wed. 3. "Absolutely enchanting musical."—N.Y. Times.
VERY GOOD EDDIE
"A treat not to be resisted." Guardian. "A thoroughly enjoyable evening. I recommend it."—Financial Times. "A Broadway smash hit, goes right to the top with full marks."—Daily Mail.

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PRINCE OF WALES. 01-930 8681 Evgs. 8.0. Mat. Wed., Sat. 3.0 "Welcome to a great new musical." —Daily Mirror.
MARDI GRAS
"Brilliant. Most exciting Musical for a long, long time." Sunday Times. "1st British Musical to sing about." Sunday Mirror.

QUEEN'S. 01-734 1166. Evenings 8.0 Mat. Thurs. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 Winner of all the awards for BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR. Michael GAMBON in Simon GRAY'S
OTHERWISE ENGAGED
Directed by Harold PINTER

REGENT. 637 9862. Evenings 8.30 Fri., Sat. 7.0 & 9.15 2ND YEAR OF SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW OF THE SEVENTIES
LET MY PEOPLE COME
AN ADULT MUSICAL "Never a dull moment."—E. News. 100 tickets held for sale at door.

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by YEMI AJIBADE "BEST BLACK ACTING I HAVE SEEN ON ANY STAGE."—Times. SEATS FROM 60p

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THE MOUSETRAP
WORLD'S LONGEST EVER RUN 24TH YEAR

SAVOY. 836 8888. Evenings at 8 Mats. Wed. 2.30 & Sat. 5 D. FRK BOND in
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER AT THE VICARAGE

STRAND. 836 2660. [illegible] Mats. Thur. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 [illegible] Doris Hare [illegible] Arthur Howard [illegible]
NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis LONDON'S LONGEST LAUGH [illegible]

THEATRE AT NEW END. [illegible] Hampstead Tube [illegible] College presents Paying Admission [illegible] Money and Pollie [illegible] Marriage and [illegible]

THEATRE ROYAL. Stratford [illegible] FEYDEAU'S HILARIOUS FARCE
OUT OF PRACTICE

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988. [illegible] Margaret LOCKWOOD Paul DANEMAN & Barrie INGHAM
DOUBLE EDGE
"SUPERB. The cleverest [illegible]"

VICTORIA PALACE. [illegible] BALLET ESPANOL "SILUETAS" LUISA ARANDA & JOSE ANTONIO [illegible] TERRY SCOTT, JUNE WHITFIELD [illegible] A BEDFULL OF FOREIGNERS London's Top Value. A night out [illegible] ONLY £5.00 [illegible]

WHITEHALL. 01-930 [illegible] PAUL RAYMOND presents Britain's No. 1 Sex Symbol
FIONA RICHMOND in COME INTO MY BED

WIMBLEDON THEATRE. [illegible] ACTORS COMPANY WIDOWERS' HOUSES Opens Tues. at 7. [illegible]

WINDMILL THEATRE. 437 6312 PAUL RAYMOND presents
LET'S GET LAID
Twice nightly at 7.0 & 9.0 2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR

WYNDHAMS. 836 3028. Evgs. at 8. Sats. 5 & 8.15. Mats. Wed. at 3. JIMMY JEWEL in
COMEDIANS
By Trevor Griffiths. "The most exciting play in London."—S. Times. "... best play in London." News [illegible]

YOUNG VIC (by Old Vic). 928 6363. Tdy. 3 & 8.15. Last Perfs. of CHARLEY'S AUNT. 80p.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. [illegible] Last Perfs. Tdy. 11 DREAMPEOPLE [illegible] THE ARCHITECT AND THE EMPEROR.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 From 8.15 Dng. & Dncg. At 9.30 New Revue SWEET TEMPTATION & at 11 p.m. LENA MARTELL Opening Monday next PETER GORDENO

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2. Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861. Sep. Perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE. 1: THE SUNSHINE BOYS (A). Wk. & Sun.: 2.00, 5.30, 8.30. 2: BARRY LYNDON (A). Wk. & Sun. 2.25, 7.55. Late show tonight, 11.55.

ACADEMY ONE. 437 2981. Jose Luis Borau's POACHERS (AA). Progs. 2.30, 4.55, 6.10, 8.45.

ACADEMY TWO. 437 5129. James Mason AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PRINCESS (A) and LEGACY [illegible] Progs. 12.50, 3.05, 5.10, 8.20.

ACADEMY THREE. 437 8819. Marcel Carné's LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (A). Show times 3.45, 8.0.

CASINO, Old Compton St. 437 6877. THE HINDENBURG (A). Perfs. 2.30 (not Sun.), 5.15, Sep. Bkble. perf. at 8.30. Late show Sat. 11.15 p.m.

COLUMBIA. Shaftesbury Ave. 734 5414. THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING (A). Cont. progs. Wk. 2.10, 5.00, 7.55, Sun. 2.40, 5.00, 7.55.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737. Alan Bates in Simon Gray's BUTLEY (AA). Wk. film at 2.30, 6.00, 8.30. Sun. film at 5.00, 7.15, 8.30.

DOMINION. Tott. Crt. Rd. (580 9562) Burt Lancaster MOSES (A). Sep. progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.30, 8.00. Sun. 3.30, 8.00. Late show Sat. 11.15. All seats may be booked.

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. THE SLIPPER AND THE ROSE (U). Daily 1.30, 4.40, 8.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.30 p.m. Sep. Perfs. All seats bookable. Nr phone bookings.

GATE CINEMA, Nott. Hill. 727 5750 All [illegible] SANSHO DAYU (A) [illegible] & SPACEPLACE [illegible] LAST 3 DAYS WILD BUNCH (X) & HIRELING (AA). 11.15.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). DAVID BOWIE in Nicolas Roeg's film THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH (X). Prog. Wk. & Sun. 2.20, 5.10, 8.05. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Circle seats may be booked.

ODEON, HAYMARKET. [illegible] JENNY [illegible]
ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE. [illegible] ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST [illegible]
ODEON, MARBLE ARCH. [illegible] RACHEL'S [illegible]
ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE—[illegible] DISNEY DINOSAURS ONE OF OUR ... MISSING [illegible]
PARIS PULLMAN. [illegible] STEPPENWOLF [illegible]
PHOENIX. [illegible] STEPPENWOLF [illegible]
PENWOLF [illegible] THE PHANTOM [illegible]
PLAZA 1 & 2. [illegible] JAWS (A) [illegible] MAHOGANY (A) [illegible]
PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181 EMMANUELLE (X) [illegible]
RITZ, Leicester Sq. [illegible] ZULU [illegible]
SCENE 1, 2, 3, 4, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) [illegible] STREETFIGHTER [illegible] BLAZING SADDLES [illegible] THE EXORCIST [illegible] THE TOWERING INFERNO [illegible] TOMMY [illegible]
WARNER WEST END [illegible] Kris Kristofferson ALICE DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE [illegible] THE SELL [illegible] OPERATION DAYBREAK (AA) [illegible] AL PACINO DOG DAY AFTERNOON [illegible] Sat. 11.00 p.m.

ART GALLERIES

HAMPTON HILL GALLERY 203-205 High St., Hampton Hill. Hounslow, [illegible] Paintings and watercolours of London and Wallsidale by Ernest Hamilton Amor (1889-1987) 22nd March-3rd April 1976 Daily 9-6 except Sundays.

HEIM, 59 Jermyn Street, S.W.1. Drawings by John Flaxman until 9th April. Mon.-Fri., 10-5.30.

LEFEVRE GALLERY. — Contemporary Paintings and Drawings. Weekdays 10-5, Saturdays 10-1. 30 Bruton Street, London, W1. 493 1572 3.

MARJORIE PARR GALLERY, 285 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.3. JAMES [illegible]—Paintings. BETTY [illegible]—tapestries. Until March 27th. Open all day Sat. Closed Mon.

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W.1. KOKOSCHKA Cityscapes and Landscapes. A 90th Birthday Tribute. Loan Exhibition in aid of the Save the Children Fund. Also Graphics. Adm. 80p. Students 20p. Illus. Cat. £1. Mon.-Fri.: 10-5.30, Sat.: 10-12.30. Until 10 April.

PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALLERY, 8 Gt. Newport St., W.C.2. [illegible] Till April 3 David Moore and John Blakemore.

ROLAND BROWSE & DELBANCO, 19 Cork St., W.1. 01-734 7984. Keith Grant: Iceland & Ireland. Until 9th April. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30.

SERPENTINE GALLERY, Kensington Gdns. (Arts Council). A selection of Previous Exhibitors. Until 28 March. Daily 10-5. Adm. free.

THACKERAY GALLERY, 18 Thackeray St., Kensington Sq., W.8. 01-937 [illegible] BRIAN YALE until 11 April.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, S.W.7. Fashion 1900-1939. A Scottish Arts Council Exhibition. Until [illegible] Wkdys. 10-5.30. Sun. 2.30-5.30. Adm. 30p.

WILDENSTEIN
147 New Bond Street, W.1.
HUBERT YENCESSE
Sculpture and Drawings
Weekdays 10-5.30, Saturdays 10-12.30
Until 31st March
Admission free

CHIM HOSE [illegible] 2 Grosvenor St. [illegible] 01-493 4591. P. Sovak [illegible] gouaches, drawings. Also [illegible] & 20th Century British and European Masters. [illegible]

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. [illegible] MASTER DRAWINGS AND PRINTS until 15 April. Mon.-Fri. [illegible] Thurs. until 7.

BRITISH MUSEUM. THRACIAN TREASURES FROM BULGARIA. On loan from the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Until March. Wkdys. 10-5 and [illegible] Thursdays only. Last admission [illegible] Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

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FIELDBORNE GALLERIES, 63 Queens Grove, NW8 586 3600. EMMANUEL LEVY. 50 yrs. of Painting Drawing.

GERALD M NORMAN GALLERY 8 Duke St St. James's, S.W.1
AN AGE OF TASTE
Fine 18th and 19th Century English Watercolours and Drawings [illegible] 27th March. Tel.: 839 7595

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Now auditioning for all voices. Concerts in U.K. and tours abroad. Application forms from Chorus Sec. 4 The Priory, St Marks Hill, Surbiton, Surrey.

LUNCHTIME MUSIC IN THE CITY
Bishopsgate Hall, 230 Bishopsgate, EC2 Admission 30p.
Tuesday, March 30, 1.05 to 1.50 p.m.
RICHARD LESTER harpsichord
Sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti and Antonio Soler
Presented by the City Music Society.

SPRING AT SNAPE MALTINGS
English Music Theatre previews:
Tom Jones (Oliver) 8 p.m. April 6
Cinderella (Rossini) 8 p.m. April 9
SNT Orch. Aronowitz 3 p.m. April 11
St. John Passion 3 p.m. April 16
Ldn. Mozart Plyrs. Holmes 8.30. April 17
Kaleidoscope Children's Concert
Luton/Willison Cant 11 a.m. April 18
Booking now: Aldeburgh Festival Office Tel. 072 885 2935

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Mailing list 60p a year
Tickets £1·50, £1·10, 75p, 50p unless otherwise stated.

Today 27 Mar. 7.30 p.m.	MOURA LYMPANY piano Terry Slasberg	Brahms: [illegible] Debussy: [illegible] Rachmaninov: [illegible]
Sunday 28 Mar. 7.30 p.m.	KENNETH BROADWAY piano Ibbs and Tillett	Beethoven: Sonata Op. [illegible] Brahms: Variations and fugue on a theme by Handel, Op. 24 Copland: Piano Variations Prokofiev: Sonata No. 7
Wednesday 31 Mar. 7.30 p.m.	COUNTERPOINT vocal consort Helen Jennings Concert Agency	Early Mediaeval Music, Madrigals, Folk Songs, Negro Spirituals Songs by Debussy, Schubert, Compositions by [illegible] of Counterpoint
Thursday 1 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	CATHERINE COURTOIS violin CATHERINE COLLARD piano Helen Anderson Music Mgt	Bach: Sonata No. [illegible] Brahms: Sonata [illegible] Schumann: [illegible] Prokofiev: Sonata No. 2 in D
Friday 2 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	DANIELE ARPAJOU piano New Era Int. Concerts	Bach: Prelude and fugue in [illegible] Rachmaninov: Preludes Op. [illegible] Debussy: [illegible] Messiaen: [illegible] Works by Lully, Liszt, Enesco, Fauré
Saturday 3 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	LONDON OBOE QUARTET	Quartets by Mozart, Amon, Oliver Knussen (1st perf.) and Neil Saunders (1st perf.) Also works by Bach arr. Mozart and Beethoven
Monday 5 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	LAURENCE ALLIX piano John Woolf	Elliott Carter: Sonata Boulez: Sonata No. [illegible] Skriabin: Sonatas Nos. [illegible] Jolivet: [illegible]
Wednesday 7 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	LES LUTHISTES Alison Horribow soprano. Lavinia Snelling lute and theorbo. Stephen Stubbs lute	An Evening of 17th Century Chamber Music Caccini, Cavalli, Carissimi, Monteverdi, Schütz, Huygens
Thursday 8 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	FORBES HENDERSON guitar Basil Douglas Ltd.	Bach: Lute Suite No. [illegible] in E Richard Rodney Bennett: 5 Impromptus Berkeley: Sonatina Walton: 5 Bagatelles Brouwer, Ponce, Martin, Lauro
Friday 9 Apr. 7.30 p.m.	DONNA STOERING piano New Era Int. Concerts	Bach: French Suite in G [illegible] Brahms: [illegible] Beethoven: Sonata in C minor "Pathétique" Granados: [illegible] "Goyescas" Works by Benjamin Lees, Scriabin

World of Islam Festival

Concert Programme April-May 1976

PURCELL ROOM

12 April, 8 p.m.	Mahmud Mirza, sitar
15 April, 7.30 p.m.	Andalusian Orchestra from Morocco
22 April, 7.30 p.m.	Saddedin Heper with Orchestra and Choir
29 April, 7.30 p.m.	Classical Music from Iran
6 May, 7.30 p.m.	Roshan Ara Begum and Nisar Hussain Khan

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

18 April, 3 p.m.	Andalusian Orchestra from Morocco
19 April, 3 p.m.	Masters of the Oud
19 April, 7.45 p.m.	Mahmud Mirza, sitar
25 April, 3 p.m.	Saddedin Heper with Orchestra and Choir
2 May, 3 p.m.	Classical Music from Iran
9 May, 3 p.m.	Roshan Ara Begum and Nisar Hussain Khan

Tickets are on sale from 12 March from Royal Festival Hall Box Office. Cheques to be made payable to Greater London Council. Postal applications should include a self-addressed stamped envelope and be sent to the Royal Festival Hall Box Office, London SE1 8XX (01-928 3191). Purcell Room prices: £1.50, £1.20, 90p, 60p. Queen Elizabeth Hall prices: £2.00, £1.60, £1.20, 80p, 50p.

ST. JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE, S.W.1. SAT., APRIL 10th, at 7 p.m.



BACH: ST JOHN PASSION

performed in English, in the edition by Benjamin Britten and the translation by Peter Pears and Imogen Holst

Richard Frewer, Evangelist — Nigel Beavan, Jesus
Patricia Hooper, soprano — John York Skinner, countertenor
Richard Morton, tenor — David Wilson-Johnson, baritone
The St. Margaret's Westminster Singers
The Richard Hickox Orchestra

Conductor RICHARD HICKOX

Tickets: £2.50, £2.00, £1.50, 90p from the Vestry, St. Margaret's Church, Parliament Sq., S.W.1 (01-730 8432) or at door on night. Cheques payable to the Richard Hickox Orchestra—please enclose stamped addressed envelope.

Namara Entertainments Ltd. Presents
April 2nd 1976 8.00 p.m.

AN ARABIAN FANTASY

featuring the music of DAVID FANSHAWE
with OWAIN ARWELL HUGHES and
JOHN LAMBERT conducting the chorus and orchestra.
LUDMILLA NOVA
DOUGIE SQUIRES introduces The Namara Dancers
£3, £2.50, £2, £1.50, £1, 50p
"Arabian Fantasy" record album on EMI Records (EMA 777)

Broadcasting Saturday

A rather tired evening's viewing with the honourable exception of Edvard Munch (BBC2 7.55), the British premiere of a film about the Norwegian painter, directed by Peter Watkins. Elsewhere Cilla (BBC1 8.25) is pedestrian [illegible] Dallas (BBC1 6.55) nor The Girl Who Knew Too Much (ITV 7.45) is really worth bothering with. Bruce Forsyth is a guest on the entertaining Saturday Night at the Mill (BBC1 11.10). Brenda Arnau adds style to the International Pop Proms (ITV 10.45) and the early morning Hoosegow (BBC1 11.50) is a Laurel and Hardy classic. Best of the sport is Racing from Newbury (BBC1 1.50).—T.S.

BBC 1

9.00 am, The Mister Men. **9.05,** Ring-a-Ding. **9.15,** Marine Boy. **9.40,** Champion.* **10.05,** When the Talkies Were Young.* **10.25,** On the Move. **10.35,** Zorro.* **11.00,** The Little House. **11.30,** Laurel and Hardy.* **12.10 pm,** Once Over Lightly.* **12.30,** Grandstand: 12.35, Football Focus; 1.00, 1976 Flat Season; 1.15, Badminton, England v Indonesia: 1.30, 2.40, 3.30, 4.30. Show Jumping from Northwood: 1.50, 2.20, 2.50, Racing from Newbury: 2.10, Weightlifting, Brut International; 3.10, 3.50, Rugby, Featherstone Rovers v Widnes; 4.45, Final Score. **5.05,** Tom and Jerry.

- **5.15** News.
- **5.30** Jim'll Fix It.
- **6.05** Dixon of Dock Green.
- **6.55** Film: Dallas, with Gary Cooper, Ruth Roman, Steve Cochran.
- **8.25** Cilla.
- **9.10** Cannon.
- **10.00** News.
- **10.10** Match of the Day.
- **11.10** Saturday Night at the Mill.
- **11.55** Weather.

* Black and white.

Regional variations (BBC 1): **BBC WALES.**—9.40-10.05 am, Telewele. **SCOTLAND.**—4.55-5.05 pm, Scoreboard. 5.25-5.30, Scoreboard. 10.10-10.20, Labour Party (Scottish Council) Conference. 10.20-10.45, Sportscene. 10.45-11.10, Songs of Scotland. **NORTHERN IRELAND.**—4.55-5.05 pm, Scoreboard. 5.25-5.30, Northern Ireland News.

BBC 2

7.40 am, Open University: Foundation Maths; 8.05, Poetry; 8.30, Pure Maths; 8.55, Digital Computing; 9.20, Ford Interview; 9.45, Woodland Decomposers; 10.10, Curriculum Design; 10.35, Maths; 11.00, Demographic Crisis; 11.25, War Consequences 1914-30; 11.50, Palaeontology and Geological Time; 12.15 pm, Suez Crisis; 12.40, Transmission Lines; 1.05, Childhood in Victorian Literature; 1.30-1.55, Nutrition for Animals. **3.05,** Film: Torch Song, with Joan Crawford, Michael Wilding. **4.30,** Play Away.

- **5.00** Money Programme: The Crown Agents.
- **5.30** Westminster.
- **6.15** Open Door: The Kite and *Cambridge*.
- **6.55** News.
- **7.05** Our Mutual Friend.
- **7.55** Edvard Munch. British television film premiere.
- **11.30** News.
- **11.35-1.10 am** Film: Dark City, with Charlton Heston, Lizbeth Scott, Viveca Lindfors, Dean Jagger, Don DeFore.*

London Weekend

9.00 am, Catch '76. **9.25,** Parents' Day. **9.45,** Saturday Scene. **9.50,** The Beachcombers. **10.20,** Fantastic Voyage. **10.45,** Junior Police Five. **11.05,** Run, Joe, Run! **11.30,** Thunderbirds. **12.30 pm,** World of Sport. **12.35,** On the Ball. **1.00,** Cliff Diving: Mexico v United States. **1.10,** News. **1.20,** The ITV Six: 1.30, Hexham; 1.45, Doncaster; 2.00, Hexham; 2.15, Doncaster; 2.30, Hexham; 2.55, Doncaster. **3.10,** All England Badminton Championships. **3.50,** Half-Time Round-up. **4.00,** Wrestling. **4.50,** Results Service.

- **5.05** News.
- **5.15** Cartoons.
- **5.30** Supersonic.
- **6.00** New Faces.
- **7.00** Celebrity Squares.
- **7.45** Mystery Movie: Amy Prentiss, the Desperate World of Jane Doe, with Jessica Walter.
- **9.30** The Best of Upstairs, Downstairs.
- **10.30** News.
- **10.45** International Pop Proms.
- **11.45** Film: The Earth Dies Screaming (1964), with Willard Parker, Dennis Price, Virginia Field.*

12.40 am, Christian in the East.

Anglia

9.00 am, London. **9.50,** Checkmate. **10.15,** Hammy Hamster. **10.30,** Boldmoney. **10.45,** Big Blue Marble. **11.10,** [illegible] **11.35,** Born Free. **12.30,** London. **5.30,** The Flintstones. **6.00,** London. **7.45,** Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Russell Harty. **12.35 am,** At the End of the Day.

ATV

9.15 am, Plain Sailing. **9.40,** Parents' Day. **10.10,** Flaws. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.15,** Return to the Planet of the Apes. **5.45,** New Faces. **6.45,** Six Million Dollar Man. **7.45,** Film: Only When I Larf, with Richard Attenborough, David Hemmings. **9.30,** London. **11.45-12.15 am,** ATV Today Pick of the Week.

Border

9.30 am, Catch '76. **10.00,** Parents' Day. **10.30,** The Man from U.N.C.L.E. **12.00,** The Geordie Scene. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.15,** Border Sports Results. **5.20,** Cartoon. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Celebrity Squares. **7.15,** Now Who Do You Do? **7.45,** Film, Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda. **9.30-11.45,** London.

Yorkshire

9.30 am, Catch '76. **9.55,** Parents' Day. **10.25,** Man from U.N.C.L.E. **12.00,** The Geordie Scene. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Celebrity Squares. **7.15,** Sale of the Century. **7.45,** Film: Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda, Anthony Quinn, Dorothy Malone. **9.30,** London. **11.45-12.40 am,** The Collaborators.

Southern

9.15 am, Catch '76. **9.40,** ATV. **10.10,** Kitchen Garden. **10.37,** Weather. **10.40,** Pepe Le Pew. **10.50,** Tell Me Why. **11.20,** Fantastic Voyage. **11.45,** Rainbow Country. **12.15 pm,** Southsport. **12.30,** London. **5.15,** ATV. **5.35,** London. **6.05,** The Persuaders. **7.00,** London. **7.45,** Film: Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda, Anthony Quinn, Dorothy Malone. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Southern News. **11.50,** Hygenus. **12.20 am,** Weather. Guideline.

Tyne Tees

9.30 am, Catch '76. **9.55,** Parents' Day. **10.20,** Opportunity. **10.25,** The Man from Uncle. **12.00,** Indoor League. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Celebrity Squares. **7.15,** Sale of the Century. **7.45,** Film: Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Bonzy. **12.40 am,** Epilogue.

Scottish

9.30 am, Catch '76. **9.55,** Parents' Day. **10.30,** Sailing with Clive. **10.55,** Felix the Cat. **11.10,** Animated Classics: The Prince and the Pauper. **12.00,** The Geordie Scene. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Now Who Do You Do? **7.00,** London. **7.45,** Film: Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda, Anthony Quinn. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Late Call. **11.50-12.45 am,** Police Story.

Ulster

10.30 am, Kitchen Garden. **11.00,** Hammy Hamster. **11.30,** Sesame Street. **12.30 pm,** London. **7.00,** Sale of the Century. **7.30,** Film: The Vikings, with Kirk Douglas, Tony Curtis, Janet Leigh. **9.30,** London. **11.45-12.15 am,** The Protectors.

Granada

9.15 am, Catch '76. **9.40,** ATV. **10.05,** Sesame Street. **11.05,** The Count of Monte Cristo. **11.35,** Daniel Boone. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Now Who Do You Do? **7.00,** London. **7.45,** Film: Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda, Anthony Quinn. **9.30,** London. **10.45,** The Protectors. **11.15-1.15 am,** Film: The Rat Race, with Tony Curtis, Debbie Reynolds.

HTV

9.35 am, Catch '76. **10.00,** Parents' Day. **10.30,** Sesame Street. **11.30,** Black Beauty. **12.00,** Supersonic. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Yes, Honestly. **7.00,** London. **7.45,** Film, James Garner and Jean Simmons in Woman Without a Face. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Kung Fu. **12.40 am,** Weather. **HTV CYMRU/WALES.**—As HTV: **6.30-7.00 pm,** Carreg Filltir.

Westward

9.30 am, Catch '76. **10.00,** Parents' Day. **10.25,** Big Blue Marble. **10.50,** Look and See. **10.55,** The Geordie Scene. **11.20,** Gus Honeybun. **11.35,** Tirzan. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.15,** UFO. **6.15,** London. **7.15,** Sale of the Century. **7.45,** Film, The Searching Hunt, with Maureen O'Hara, Paul Henreid, Walter Slezak. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Police Surgeon. **12.10 am,** Power of Life.

Grampian

10.05 am, Film: Robinson Crusoe on Mars, with Paul Mantee, Adam West. **12.00,** The Geordie Scene. **12.30 pm,** London. **5.30,** New Faces. **6.30,** Celebrity Squares. **7.15,** Now Who Do You Do? **7.45,** Film: Warlock, with Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda. **9.30,** London. **11.45,** Police Story. **12.35 am,** Prayers.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Tom Edwards.† **8.03,** Racing Bulletin. **8.05,** Ed Stewart.† **10.00,** Rosko. **1.00 pm,** Russ Ballard's Top Twelve.† **2.00,** Alan Freeman.† **5.00,** Paul Gambaccini.† **6.00,** In Concert.† **7.30,** Top Tunes.† **8.30,** Peter Morrison.† **9.02,** Radio Orchestra.† **10.02,** Pop Over Europe. **10.45,** Alan Dell.† **12.31-12.33 am,** News.
† Stereo.

2

6.00 am, Radio 1. **10.02,** Charlie Chester.† **12.02 pm,** Two's Best.† **1.02,** The Family Brandon (1,500m).† **1.30-5.55,** Sport (1,500m) including Football; Rugby, Middlesex v Gloucestershire; Racing at Doncaster; Badminton, All-England Championships. **5.00,** Sports Report. **6.03,** Star Sound (1,500m). **7.02,** Steptoe (1,500m). **7.30-12.33 am,** Radio 1.

3

8.00 am, News. **8.05,** The Young Idea.† **9.00,** News. **9.05,** Record Review.† **10.15,** BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, part 1: Haydn, Falla.† **11.00,** Reading. **11.10,** Concert, part 2: Delius, Tchaikovsky.† **12.02 pm,** Robin Ray.† **12.55,** News. **1.00,** Foreign Press Review. **1.15,** Haydn and Brahms.† **2.20,** Man of Action, Wynne Godley.† **3.35,** Ravel, Stravinsky, Sibelius.† **5.00,** Critics' Forum. **5.50,** The Long Christmas Dinner, opera by Paul Hindemith.† **6.40,** Son and Stranger, Liederspiel by Mendelssohn. **8.00,** Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, part 1: Brahms.† **8.35,** Personal View: Hugh Thomas. **8.55,** Concert, part 2: Mozart, Beethoven.† **9.45,** Howard Henson, portrait. **10.20,** Twentieth-century harpsichord music. **10.40,** Jazz Record Requests.† **11.25-11.30,** News.

4

6.30 am, News. **6.32,** Farming. **6.50,** Outlook. **6.55,** Weather. **7.00,** News. **7.10,** On Your Farm. **7.40,** Today's Papers. **7.45,** Outlook. **7.50,** Today. **8.00,** News and more of Today. **8.50,** Yesterday in Parliament. **9.00,** News. **9.05,** From Our Own Correspondent. **9.30,** The Week in Westminster. **10.00,** News. **10.02,** The Weekly World. **10.15,** Service. **10.30,** Pick of the Week. **11.30,** Science Now. **12.00,** News. **12.02 pm,** Radio 3. **12.55,** Weather. **1.00,** News. **1.15,** Any Questions? **2.00,** Weekend. **3.00,** News. **3.05,** Play: Just his Manner. **3.35,** Radio 3. **5.00,** PM Reports. **6.00,** News. **6.15,** Robert Robinson. **7.00,** News. **7.02,** Desert Island Discs. **7.35,** Richard Baker. **8.30,** Play: On the Spot. **9.58,** Weather. **10.00,** News. **10.15,** A Word in Edgeways. **11.00,** Prayers. **11.15-11.36,** News. **11.45-11.48,** Inshore forecast.

BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.

London Broadcasting, news and information station. 97.3 VHF, 261 M.

Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news and features station. 95.8 VHF, 194 M.

Radio

Taking wing

To all appearances, American duck these 20 years or more. Now the old bedraggled corpse seems likely to take wing again, and what better to breathe life into a departed duck than a play called *My Name is Bird McKai*—although I suspect that a member of the family Anatidae was not quite what Anne Leaton had in mind when she composed the thing.

This play and Edward Albee's new *Listening* (see below) owe their existence to an organization founded four years ago by one Karl Schmidt of Wisconsin University. It goes by the rather disagreeable name of "Earplay"—a word which its similarity to the German "Hörspiel" does little to sweeten. But what's in a name? Earplay, I am told, really seems to be performing the architypal miracle—revivification—and in certain respects its first two productions to be heard in this country suggest that it is well equipped to do so.

In certain respects. And with that caution—which I shall come back to—I must say that *Bird McKai* was an exceptionally accomplished and interesting piece of work. Had its author been studying *The Dark Tower* and Professor Schmidt, who produced it, McNeice's own production? It sounded uncommonly likely: there was something of the same easy entry into the world of allegory which McNeice brought off with the opening trumpet practice, Anne Leaton with Bird's own name — expressive of her mother's aspirations for her and of her own longings which set her so thoroughly apart. She wanted to "fly". Likewise Roland wanted to fight the dragon and both, to reach their goal, went through a period of disenchantment, both found themselves in a desert. As to production, with splendid economy of effect, it created an atmosphere which belonged both to the world of here and now and to somewhere else again. McNeice achieved the same.

But here comes the caution: for in their respective views, in their philosophies, it seemed to me the two plays diverged absolutely. *The Dark Tower* was never quite explicit about what the dragon was nor what was meant by fighting him: plainly, however, it represented a spiritual quest and just as plainly it was one which though entirely personal, was also part of some much larger undertaking, one involving not only Roland but his father, the brothers who had gone before him, the Trumpeter and others besides. Bird's also was a quest, but its consummation was a "flight" (trip?) induced by the smoke of a "green-tasting twig" received from Red Eagle, a lonely Indian in the Arizona desert who, like Bird, had cut himself off from his own. The experience of "flying" nearly killed her, but she survived, recovered, settled down in Tucson, Arizona, with her son (who was evidently Red Eagle's, too) and, with her life in this way consummated, took on a job as manageress of a café [illegible] she could pass the [illegible] on to small Red Eagle.

The contrast with McNeice I find at this point extreme and not to *Bird McKai's* advantage. Hers, you may say, is a resolution in the spirit of our times, but—as Solzhenitsyn has been telling us—the times are somewhat out of joint. In Roland's world, before you set out on anything as risky as a quest, there was a good deal to be learnt: not in Bird McKai's where the desire is all you need. And for her, the end of it all, the reason for it all and all understanding are to be found on the far side of a few lungfuls of smoke. . . .

But perhaps I am being quite doltishly literal and this sort of mystical aspirin is also to be taken with a glass of cool allegory. I did not get that message, but if I should have done then still I am left with a divergence of motives: Roland's mainspring, despite all vicissitudes, was the journey for its own sake undertaken with little notion of personal salvation. By contrast, Bird McKai's *seemed to me* to be founded principally upon self-preoccupation.

By courtesy of the BBC, I have already heard Earplay's next: *Listening* goes out tomorrow (Radio 3) and is Albee's first play specifically for radio, written on Karl Schmidt's invitation, and one hopes that to have landed such a famous fish will help to found his company's reputation. I do not want to anticipate the broadcast, but perhaps a warning is in order that the play makes an exceedingly demanding 80-minutes' worth.

Serials require such a commitment that if the first episode does not put hooks in, one is reluctant to go back for the second. There has been little difficulty of this kind with Brian Miller's production from Bristol of *The Return of the Native* which has been a welcome weekly attraction. I wondered from time to time if Susan Penhaligon had quite got the measure of Eustacia Vye, but there was no doubting Patrick Mower's command of Diggory Venn—a part he played with consistent strength and dignity. The final episode was followed by Antony Hopkins's *One Man's Bach* which lost an opportunity by spending 45 minutes going over the most familiar ground.

Next week, apart from Albee, you can have a milder experience, I've no doubt, with *Rattigan's Theatre* (Radio 3, Tuesday); Sir Terence talks about his life and times. *Evelyn Waugh* might be astringent (Sunday, Radio 4) and on Thursday Solzhenitsyn is back (again) on *Analysis*. His low opinion of the West has its recognizable features, sure enough, but as broadcasting threatens him with death by over-exposure, one wonders if the Trojans didn't rather relish a half-hour with Cassandra or the Romans those who, doubtless, filled their ears with awful tales of the barbarians. And what good did it all do?

David Wade

Sunday

The two hundredth birthday of the Bolshoi Theatre is celebrated in [illegible] of Romeo and Juliet (BBC2 8.15) direct from Moscow by the Bolshoi Ballet who give a thrilling display. Best of a poor bunch of films is Angels One Five (BBC1 8.15) with Jack Hawkins, but Afternoon Dancing (ITV 10.0) is a promising new play by William Trevor. The World About Us (BBC2 7.25) studies otters. Go with Noakes (BBC1 4.30) takes us to the Lakeland Games.—T.S.

BBC 1

9.00 am, Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. **9.30,** In the Town. **9.45,** Dressmaker. **10.10-10.35,** Ensemble. **11.00,** Ecumenical Congress, service from Broadmead Baptist Church, Bristol. **11.45,** The 60 70 80 Show. **12.10-12.35 pm,** Avventura. **1.00,** Farming. **1.25,** Parents and Children. **1.50,** News Headlines. **1.55,** The Horizontal Lieutenant, with Jim Hutton, Paula Prentiss, Jack Carter. **3.25,** Droopy. **3.35** Going for a Song. **4.05,** The Little Mermaid. **4.30,** Go With Noakes. **4.55,** Eurovision Song Contest Preview. **5.25,** The Flight of the Heron.

- **5.55** News.
- **6.05** On the Move.
- **6.15** Under Bow Bells: Margaret Maden and John Rae.
- **6.50** Songs of Praise.
- **7.25** The Brothers.
- **8.15** Film: Angels One Five, with Jack Hawkins, Michael Denison, Dulcie Gray.*
- **9.50** News.
- **10.05** That's Life.
- **10.50** Film 76.
- **11.20** Weather.

* Black and white.

Regional variations (BBC 1): **BBC WALES:** 9.30-9.45 am, Ruboria. 1.55-2.25 pm, Going for a Song. 2.25-4.55, Sports Line-up: Rugby, Llanelli v Ebbw Vale, highlights: Men's Hockey, Wales v West Germany. 10.50-11.20, Ar Glawr. **SCOTLAND:** 10.50-11.00 pm, Labour Party (Scottish Council) Conference. 11.00-11.30, Film '76.

BBC 2

7.40 am, Open University: Electricity and Magnetism; 8.05, Analysing Social Interaction; 8.30, Science Foundation; 8.55, Air Traffic; 9.20, Maths Analysis; 9.45, Electrolytic Chlorine Cells; 10.10, People at Work; 10.35, Haringey Housing; 11.00, British Rail; 11.25, Science and Belief; 11.50, Industrial Relations; 12.15, Concept of Mind; 12.40, Earth Science; 1.05, Ibadan; 1.30-1.55, Elementary Maths. **3.40 pm,** Ordination and Installation of the Archbishop of Westminster. **5.40,** Rugby, Middlesex v Gloucestershire.

- **6.30** News Review.
- **7.05** The Light of Experience: Journey to the West with Satish Kumar.
- **7.25** The World About Us.
- **8.15** Romeo and Juliet, by the Bolshoi Ballet.
- **10.45** Terra Firma.
- **11.45** News.
- **11.50-1.00 am,** Film, The Heatwave Lasted Four Days, with Gordon Pinsent, Alexandra Stewart.

London Weekend

9.30 am, Yoga. **10.00,** Morning Worship from St. Andrew's Church, Bordesley Green, Birmingham. **11.00,** Plain Sailing. **11.30,** The Lone Ranger. **12.00,** Weekend World. **1.10 pm,** London Weekend Show. **1.40,** A House for the Future. **2.10,** The Big Match. **3.10,** Film: The Law and the Lady (1951), with Greer Garson, Michael Wilding, Fernando Lamas.* **5.05,** Dominic. **5.35,** Survival.

- **6.05** News.
- **6.15** Sunday Quiz.
- **6.35** Open Pulpit.
- **7.00** Start the Day.
- **7.25** Now Who Do You Do?
- **7.55** Film: The Marriage Go Round (1961), with Susan Hayward, James Mason.
- **9.35** Police Five Extra.
- **9.45** News.
- **10.00** Play: Afternoon Dancing, *with Megs Jenkins,* Carmel McSharry, Norman Beaton.
- **11.00** Jason King.
- **12.00** Witness to Yesterday.
- **12.25** am, Picturing Women as People.

Tyne Tees

10.00 am, London. **11.25,** Galloping Gourmet. **11.55,** Where the Jobs Are. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** Gardening. **1.30,** Farming. **2.00,** Star Soccer. **2.55,** The Ghost and Mrs Muir. **3.25,** The World at War. **4.25,** Cartoon. **4.30,** The Flintstones. **5.05,** The Geordie Scene. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Film: The Brotherhood, with Kirk Douglas, Alex Cord. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** A House for the Future. **11.30,** What Kind of Navy? What Kind of War? **12.00,** Epilogue.

ATV

9.30 am, Farming. **10.00,** London. **11.00,** A House for the Future. **11.30,** Catch '76. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** The Addams Family. **1.35,** Fantastic Voyage. **2.00,** Star Soccer. **2.55,** Strange Report. **3.50,** World at War. **4.50,** Celebrity Squares. **5.25,** Dominic. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** [illegible] Girl in My Soup, with Peter Sellers. **9.15,** Yes Honestly. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** Only Fifty Challenge. **11.30,** The Protectors. **12.00,** Father Paschall.

HTV

10.00 am, London. **11.00,** ATV. **11.30,** The Geordie Scene. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** Merrie Melodies. **1.40,** Farming. **2.10,** London. **3.10,** The World at War. **4.10,** Hawkins. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.55,** Film: Perfect Friday, with Ursula Andress, Stanley Baker, David Warner. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** ATV. **11.30,** What Kind of Navy? What Kind of War? **12.00,** Weather. **HTV CYMRU/WALES:** As HTV except: **1.10-1.40 pm,** University Challenge. **6.35-7.00,** A Dwrud a Gwir. **11.00-11.30,** Robert Wright.

Yorkshire

9.45 am, Chess Masterpieces.* **10.00,** London. **11.30,** Farming. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** A House for the Future. **1.40,** Calendar Sunday. **2.05,** Football Special. **3.00,** Film, The Whole Truth, with Stewart Granger, Donna Reed, George Sanders.* **4.35,** The World at War. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Film, The Brotherhood, with Kirk Douglas, Alex Cord, Irene Papas, Susan Strasberg. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00-11.55,** The Streets of San Francisco.

Border

10.00 am, London. **11.30,** A House for the Future. **12.00,** London. **1.10,** Border Diary. **1.15,** Cartoon. **1.30,** Farming. **2.00,** Football Highlights. **3.00,** The World at War. **4.00,** Film, The Plainsman, with Don Murray, Guy Stockwell, Abby Dalton. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Sale of the Century. **7.55,** Film, A Nice Girl Like Me, with Barbara Ferris, Harry Andrews. **9.45,** London. **11.00-12.00,** Battle for Cassino, documentary.

Southern

10.00 am, London. **11.27,** Weather. **11.30,** Farm Progress. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** Arthur. **1.40,** London. **3.10,** The World at War. **4.10,** Bridget Loves Bernie. **4.30,** Southern News. **4.35,** New Faces. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Sale of the Century. **7.55,** Film: Cactus Flower, with Walter Matthau, Ingrid Bergman, Goldie Hawn. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** Homicide. **11.56,** Weather. Guideline.

Anglia

9.30 am, Kitchen Garden. **10.00,** London. **11.30,** A House for the Future. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** Cartoon. **1.25,** Weather. **1.30,** Farming. **2.00,** Match of the Week. **2.50,** Film: The Man Who Could Work Miracles, with Roland Young, Ralph Richardson.* **4.25,** Cartoon. **4.35,** The World at War. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.55,** Film: A Walk in the Spring Rain, with Anthony Quinn, Ingrid Bergman. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** Police Story. **11.55,** Women Who Matter.

Westward

10.00 am, London. **11.30,** A House for the Future. **12.00,** London. **1.05 pm,** West Country Job Finder. **1.10,** Canada—North. **1.30,** Farm and Country News. **2.00,** The Big Match. **3.00,** The Magician. **3.50,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Film: The Night of the Grizzly, with Clint Walker, Martha Hyer. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** Journey to the Unknown. **11.55,** Power for Life.

Scottish

10.00 am, Larousse. [illegible] of the Pharaohs. **10.50,** Underground Movement. **11.00,** London. **11.30,** Farming. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** A House for the Future. **1.40,** The Persuaders. **2.35,** Scotsport. **3.50,** ATV. **4.50,** Glen Michael Cavalcade. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **6.35,** Chapter and Verse. **7.00,** London. **7.25,** Film: The Brotherhood, with Kirk Douglas, Alex Cord, Irene Papas. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** Late Call. **11.05-12.00,** Arts Programme.

Grampian

11.00 am, London. **11.30,** Farming. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** A House for the Future. **1.40,** Parents' Day. **2.10,** Walt Till Your Father Gets Home. **2.35,** Scotsport. **3.50,** ATV. **4.50,** Glen Michael Cavalcade. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Film, The Brotherhood, with Kirk Douglas, Alex Cord. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00,** ATV. **11.30,** The Adventurer. **12.00,** Prayers.

Granada

9.30 am, Kitchen Garden. **10.00,** London. **11.25,** Cartoon. **11.30,** Inner Space. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** The Beachcombers. **1.40,** London. **2.10,** Kick Off Match. **3.15,** Film: Miss Robin Hood, Margaret Rutherford. **4.35,** The World at War. **5.35,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Columbo. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00-12.25 am,** Film: Can Ellen Be Saved?

Ulster

11.00 am, London. **11.30,** Checkmate. **12.00,** London. **1.10 pm,** Cartoon. **1.40,** London. **3.10,** The Brady Bunch. **3.40,** Cartoon. **3.50,** ATV. **6.05,** London. **7.25,** Film: To Catch a Thief, with Cary Grant, Grace Kelly. **9.10,** Sports Results. **9.15,** ATV. **9.45,** London. **11.00-11.50,** The Baron.

Radio

1

6.55 am, New Day. **7.00,** News. **7.03,** Reginald Dixon.† **8.03,** Cliff Richard. **8.32,** Ed Stewart.† **10.00,** Paul Burnett. **1.00 pm,** Jimmy Savile. **3.00,** Anne Nightingale's Request Show. **5.00,** Insight. **6.00,** Tom Browne.† **7.30,** Semprini.† **8.30,** Sunday Half-hour.† **9.02,** Best Tunes.† **10.02,** Sports Desk. **10.05,** Brass and Strings.† **11.02,** Jazz.† **12.31-12.33 am,** News.
† Stereo.

2

6.55 am, Radio 1. **10.02,** David Jacobs.† **11.30,** People's Service. **12.02 pm,** Family Favourites.† **2.02,** Steptoe and Son. **2.30,** Story of Revue. **3.30,** Ron Goodwin. **4.02,** Charlie Chester.† **6.00,** Radio 1. **7.02,** The Family Brandon. **7.30-12.33 am,** Radio 1.

3

8.00 am, News. **8.05,** Jascha Heifetz (violin): Bach, Saint-Saëns. **9.00,** News. **9.05,** Your Concert Choice: Bach, Scriabin, Moeran.† **10.30,** Music Weekly.† **11.15,** BBC Symphony Orchestra: Ives, Martin, Stravinsky.† **12.35 pm,** Words, by Eleanor Bron. **12.40,** Music of Tchaikovsky's Russia.† **2.30,** Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Centre: Telemann, Elliott, Beethoven, Quantz.† **3.20,** Eritrea, opera by Cavalli.† Prologue and Act 1. **4.30,** Thomas Walker on touring opera in Italy. **4.50,** Eritrea, Acts 2 and 3. **6.30,** Talking About Music.† **7.00,** Couperin.† **7.30,** Play: Listening, by Edward Albee.† **9.00,** Beethoven. **10.05,** No Fifth Quartet? Eliot's Four Quartets talk. **10.45,** Sounds Interesting.† **11.25-11.30,** News.

4

7.15 am, Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye. **7.45,** Bells. **7.50,** Reading. **7.55,** Weather. **8.00,** News. **8.15,** Sunday. **8.50,** Programme News. **8.55,** Weather. **9.00,** News. **9.10,** Sunday Papers. **9.15,** Letter from America. **9.30,** The Archers. **10.30,** Service from Gospel Hall, Bearwood Road, Smethwick. **11.10,** Appeal: Asthma Research Council. **11.15,** Motoring and the Motorist. **11.45,** From the Grass Roots. **12.15 pm,** You and Yours. **12.55,** Weather. **1.00,** News. **2.00,** Gardeners' Question Time. **2.30,** Play: The Radetzky March. **4.00,** News. **4.02,** Talking About Antiques. **4.30,** The Living World. **5.00,** In Touch. **5.15,** Down Your Way. **5.55,** Weather. **6.00,** News. **6.15,** Mr and Mrs Parkinson. **7.00,** News. **7.02,** Quote . . . Unquote. **7.30,** Chapter and Verse. **8.00,** Concert: Berlioz, Dvořák. **9.00,** News. **9.05,** The Inquisitor, by Hugh Walpole: Part 1. **9.58,** Weather. **10.00,** News. **10.15,** Evelyn Waugh, portrait. **11.00,** Still Time to Pray. **11.15-11.36,** News. **11.45-11.48,** Inshore Forecast.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Today 27 March 8 p.m. — VIENNA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Claudio Abbado (conductor). Brahms Symphony No. 3 in F. Mozart Symphony in E flat. Beethoven Overture, Leonora No. 3. £10.00, £8.50 (all others sold). Anglo-Austrian Society

Sunday 28 March 7.30 p.m. — ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. John Nelson (conductor), Henryk Szeryng (violin). Berlioz Overture, Le Corsaire. Beethoven Violin Con. D. Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in F minor. £5.20, £3.70, £2.50, £1.75 (all others sold). P.O. Ltd.

Monday 29 March 8 p.m. — FOREST PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA & CHOIR. Hertfordshire County Youth Choir. The Hanwell Shipway (conductor). Anna Reynolds, Stuart Burrows, Shirley Oates, David Gwynne. Berlioz The Damnation of... £3.20, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. & Tillett

Tuesday 30 March 8 p.m. — NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Andrew Davis (conductor), André Watts (piano). Debussy Iberia. Mozart Piano Concerto, K.491. Schumann Symphony No. 3 (Rhenish). £3.50, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. P.O. Ltd.

Wednesday 31 March 8 p.m. — CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHORUS. Yorkshire Imperial Metals Band, Louis Fremaux (conductor). A. Carlisle, M. Dickinson, M. Rippon, Debussy Danse Elue Richard R. Bennett Violin Concerto (1st Lon Walton Belshazzar's Feast. £2.75, £2.20, £1.75, £1.25 CBSO

Thursday 1 April 8 p.m. — LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Daniel Barenboim (conductor), Yvonne Minton (mezzo). Schubert Symphony No. 8 in B minor (Unfinished). Elgar Sea Pictures. Schumann Symphony No. 2. £3.50, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75 (ALL OTHERS SOLD). P.O. Ltd.

Sunday 4 April 11 a.m. — BACH CHOIR. Thames Chamber Orchestra. (cond). Robert Tear, John Carol Case, Felicity Lott, Neil Jenkins, Richard Salter, Philip Ledger. Bach St. Matthew Passion. ALL SEATS SOLD (A few available for April 11). Willcocks Baker, Rippolewell. & Tillett

Monday 5 April 8 p.m. — SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA. Alexander Gibson (conductor), Jessye Norman (s Colin Matthews Fourth Sonata (1st London perf.) Berlioz Les nuits d'été. Beethoven Symphony No. (Pastoral). £3.20, £2.70, £2.00, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. Ingpen & Williams Ltd.

Tuesday 6 April 8 p.m. — NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Riccardo Muti (conductor), Nicolai Gedda (tenor). Mozart Divertimento, K.136. Rossini Il Turco in Italia Overture. Mozart Il re pastore, non ricercata, K.420. Mozart Exsultate Jubilate, K.165. Mozart Idomeneo, re di Creta, K.367: Ballet music. Mozart Symphony No. 9 in C, K.73. £5.00, £3.50, £2.50, £1.75 NPO Ltd.

Wednesday 7 April 8 p.m. — BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. John Pritchard (conductor), Paul Crossley (piano). Walton Capriccio burlesco. Henze Piano Concerto. Bartók Concerto for Orchestra. £3.20, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. B.B.C.

Thursday 8 April 8 p.m. — NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Riccardo Muti (conductor). Mozart Symphony No. 25. Britten Four Sea Interludes. Beethoven Symphony No. 7. £5.20, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. P.O. Ltd.

Friday 9 April 8 p.m. — LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Eugen Jochum (conductor), Salvatore Accardo (violin). Egk French Suite. Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor. Brahms Symphony No. 4 in E minor. £5.20, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. P.O. Ltd.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Today 27 March 7.45 p.m. — CITY OF LONDON CHOIR, LONDON BACH ORCHESTRA. Donald Cashmore (conductor), Wendy Eathorne, Walker, Neil Jenkins, Roger Malsbury. Haydn Last Six Masses. Thorpe-Tracey-Hammond: The Seven last Words (Passion). £1.75, £1.50, £1.25, £1.00, 85p. City of London Choir

Sunday 28 March 3 p.m. — MYUNG-WHUN CHUNG, Piano Recital. Haydn Sonata, E in G. Beethoven Sonata in C, Op. 53 (Waldstein). Debussy Preludes Book II. Two Ballades. £1.50, £1.20, 90p, 50p. Harris-Arrott Ltd.

Sun. 28 Mar & 4 April 7.15 p.m. — NARCISO YEPES Guitar Recital Prog. inc.: Adrian Le Roy Passemeze & Branle de Poictou. Rameau Menuet. Bach Suite BWV 996. Sanz Spanish Suite. Villa-Lobos 7 Etudes. Yepes 2 Catalan Songs & works by Maderna, Albeniz & Falla. £3.20, £2.70, £2.20, £1.75, £1.30, 90p. ALL OTHERS SOLD. Raymond Gubbay

Monday 29 March 7.45 p.m. — STAN TRACEY QUARTET. A programme of modern jazz works by Stan Tracey. This replaces previous concert. £1.45, £1.20, 90p, 70p. Payne Group

Tuesday 30 March 7.45 p.m. — GABRIELI STRING QUARTET. Beethoven Quartet in A, Op. 18 No. 5: Quartet in E flat, Op. 59 No. 2 (Rasumovsky): Quartet in B flat, Op. 130 with new Fugue. Op. 133. £1.75, £1.40, £1.20, £1.00, 70p. Nat Holt Ltd.

Wednesday 31 March 7.45 p.m. — ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. John Pritchard (conductor). Malcolm Binns, N. Black, J.-L. Garcia, G. Ballerdie, Funnell. Weber Overture Precious: Piano Concerto No. 2. Mozart Oboe Quartet, K.370: Symphony No. 41 (Jupiter). £1.80, £1.60, £1.20, 80p. CO & MS

Thursday 1 April 7.45 p.m. — FOU TS'ONG Piano Recital. Mozart Sonata, K.330. Beethoven Sonata, Op. 111. Debussy Estampes. Chopin Four Mazurkas, Op. 30: Three Mazurkas, Op. 50: Polonaise, Op. 53. £1.80, £1.60, £1.20, 80p. & Tillett

Friday 2 April 7.45 p.m. — THE FIRES OF LONDON. Peter Maxwell Davies (director). Mary Thomas, Maxwell Davies 8 Preludes & Fugues from The Bl. I. The Blind Fiddler (1st Lond. perf.) Per Norgard Sy (1st Brit. perf.) Oliver Knussen Cat's Cradle (1st perf.) £1.00. The Fire of London

Saturday 3 April 7.45 p.m. — TILFORD BACH CHOIR & ORCHESTRA. Denys Darlow (conductor) Kathleen Livingstone, Richard Hill, Brian Barrows, Pet Rogers, John Carol Case, David Thomas. Bach St. John Pass £1.60, £1.30, £1.00, 65p. Tilford Bach Society

Sunday 4 April 3 p.m. — NEW HUNGARIAN QUARTET. Mozart Quartet in C, K.465 (Dissonance). Bartók Quartet No. 4 in C. Debussy Quartet in G min £1.60, £1.25, £1.10, 75p. & Tillett

Sunday 4 April 7.15 p.m. — NARCISO YEPES Guitar Recital, Prog inc: Adrian Le Ro Passemeze & Branle de Poictou Rameau Menuet Bach Suite, BWV 996 Sanz Spanish Suite Villa-Lobos 7 Etudes Yepes 2 Catalan Sons & works by Maderna, Albeniz & Falla. £3.20, £1.80, £1.40, £1.0 65p. Raymond Gubbay

Monday 5 April 7.45 p.m. — MAURICE HASSON (violin), JUDIT JAIMES (piano). Franck Sonata in A. Debussy Sonata in G minor. Prokofiev Sonata in F minor, Op. 80. £1.50, £1.25, £1.10, 75p. London Artists/Ibs & Tillett

Tuesday 6 April 7.45 p.m. — CONTRAPUNCTT East Hertfordshire Children's Choir. Michael Lancaster (cond). M. Cable, M. Hill, Haydn Otet Janácek Ríkadis Brahms 4 Songs for chorus, horns & harp. Stravinsky Cantata Mozart Suite. Don Giovanni £2.50, £1.25, £1.05. CBSO Ana Maggio

Wednesday 7 April — GERAINT JONES ORCHESTRA. Geraint Jones (cond & harpsi). W. Bergerac W. Bennett. Handel Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No. 7. £1.50, £1.20, £1.10. Concerto Vivaldi Concertino [illegible]

8 April 7.45 p.m. — DINORAH VARSI Piano Recital. Bach/Liszt Prelude & Fugue in A minor. Beethoven Sonata in C, Op. 53 (Waldstein). Concerto No. 3, in C sharp minor, Op. 39. Prokofiev Sonata No. 7, Op. 83. £1.50, £1.20, 90p, 50p. Jane Gray

Friday 9 April 7.45 p.m. — ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA WIND ENSEMBLE with Geneviève Chauveau (piano) & Richard Adeney (flute). Counod Petite Sinfonie. Francaix Wind Quartet. Debussy Syrinx for solo flute. Poulenc Sextet for piano & wind. Mozart Wind Serenade, K.388. £1.80, £1.60, £1.20, 80p. ECO & MS

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Tuesday 30 March 7.30 p.m. — CHRISTOPHER KITE & ROBERT FERGUSON (two pianos). Debussy Petite Suite. Trois Morceaux en Forme de Poire. Ravel Ma Mère l'Oye. Poulenc Sonata. Debussy En blanc et noir. Milhaud Scaramouche. £1.50, £1.00 (All Others Sold). Basil Douglas Ltd.

Wednesday 31 March 7.30 p.m. — ELIZABETH HUNT (violin) & PHILIP FOWKE (piano). Tartini Sonata (Devil's Trill). Haydn Sonata No. 50 (Dentsch). Leighton Nocturne. Ravel Tzigane. Rabbra 8 Preludes, Op. 131. McCabe Fantasy on a theme of Liszt. Schubert Duo. D.574. 80p, 60p, 40p. Royal Academy of Music

Thursday 1 April 7.30 p.m. — GEORGETTA PSAROS (mezzo-soprano). GEOFFREY PARSONS (piano) with *KRISTI BJARNASON (cello) & *ANDREW COLLIER (flute). Scarlatti, Gluck, Schubert, Brahms, *Ravel Songs. £1.50, £1.20, 90p, 60p. Prestige Artists

Friday 2 April 7.30 p.m. — ROBERTO BRAVO Piano Recital. Beethoven Sonata in A flat, Op. 26: Sonata in D minor, Op. 31 No. 2. F. Allende 2 Tonadas de caracter popular chilena. Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition. £1.50, £1.20, 90p (All Others Sold). New Era Int. Concerts Ltd.

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Francesca Annis at Stratford



Photograph by Harry Korr

When Francesca Annis opens the RSC season at Stratford Thursday as Juliet to the Romeo of Ian McKellen it will in fact be the second time she has played the part:

"The first was in Rep at Rhyl just over ten years ago. For three days before the show we'd never actually rehearsed the balcony scene so that afternoon I hauled myself onto a table to get used to height and just as I was about to start, the director said 'Good Lord, look at the time, I'll have to get to the shops before they close' and ran off. Let's just say that it wasn't the most distinguished production in the world."

Now is time, things are rather different: under Trevor Nunn's direction the RSC *Romeo* has been in rehearsal daily (and sometimes nightly) since the end of January and Miss Annis herself is no stranger to Stratford:

"I first went there for the play *Measure For Measure*: Jonathan Hack had cast Michael Billington, who's a friend of mine, and when he was asking around for a good Isabella Mike suggested me, but it was a fair old disaster. The reviews started with lines like 'Never have we think to see on the Stratford stage . . .' and we didn't even last until the end of the season. But *Romeo* looks better: it's already booked out until midsummer. That's the serious thing about Stratford, it sometimes depends on what plays you get: my landlord there said he'd been coming to see me as Juliet but he'd never thought of coming to *Measure For Measure*. He said 'I only book for the Shetzy plays': you have to laugh, really."

Miss Annis has done her fair share of laughing at the eccentricities of her profession; but anyone who can start out as the handmaiden to Elizabeth Taylor's Cleopatra in the film of that name without giggling and fetch up five years later as Lyman Polanski's nude Lady Macbeth has to have nerves of steel, and those are clearly what she's got. Born thirty years ago in London, she is the fourth child of a one-time actor turned first restaurateur and now travel executive:

"My father carried spears in the famous Olivier/Gielgud production when they alternated Romeo and Mercutio, and later he doubled for Olivier in one or two films. Then he decided he'd like to run a restaurant in Brazil so we all went to live there for a while, and now he's back in this country with a travel agency."

It was an eventful childhood, and one which seems to have headed the family towards showbusiness: both her brothers are now in television studio management, and Miss Annis herself started out to be a ballerina: "I desperately wanted to be a ballet dancer, in that classic Catholic-schoolgirl way, there's something very masochistic but lovely about all that rehearsal and suffering which dancers are supposed to endure. Anyway I went to the Corona school where someone saw me and gave me a job in a TV play called *The Sun and The Wind*. It was 1960, I was 15 and that was more or less that."

For a while, she became a kind of all-purpose television starlet: "I was desperate for publicity of any kind, and so I was forever getting myself photographed in miniskirts in bowling gales. Then I began to see pictures of myself in print that I hated and I realized that I could make a conscious decision not to get publicized. So nobody photographed me at all for a while, and people at parties began asking whatever had happened to my career. Once I got over that shock and realized you could have a career without being photographed daily I began to settle down to being an actress."

But she had trained in a tough school: *Cleopatra* was her first film, and it involved a year (1962) spent largely "on standby" in a succession of Italian hotel bedrooms: "Still, it was better than being at ballet class back in London; we got a huge living allowance and I remember going into a shop in Rome and buying three cardigans, all pink. But because I was only 17 I wasn't allowed to mix much with the rest of the unit, and having come from a big noisy family I got very lonely. Burton and Taylor were both very nice to me and when journalists used to come up on the set offering cash for "amazing revelations" it wasn't hard to refuse.

"But I'd been in Rome nearly four months before they began to do my scenes, so I was able to go to Italian and ballet classes every day and that really did me a lot of good. Somehow I didn't have then the sense of guilt I have now about letting time drift away. But the really curious thing about *Cleopatra*, you know, was that there we all were in Rome, not just the Burtons but actors like Robert Stephens and Michael Hordern and Kenneth Haigh and none of us had any real idea of quite how horrendously bad the film was going to be. It was the last of the great follies."

Back in London Miss Annis, who had by now learnt to keep her head down and simply carry on acting whenever asked, started a prolific and distinguished television career leading up to such recent BBC 2 triumphs as *Madame Bovary* and *A Pin To See The Peep-show*. Along the way, though, she did get embroiled with Jane Birkin and Karin Fernald in another sizable disaster, this one a West End stage musical called *Passion Flower Hotel* on which the composer was John Barry.

"At the same time as our show he was recording Shirley Bassey singing his 'Goldfinger' theme, and to have to go from her to me in a single day was visibly more than the poor man could stand. I could dance and act a bit by then but I really couldn't sing a note and I don't think he ever quite forgave me."

Miss Annis, as was by then her wont, pressed on regardless, notably to the Roman Polanski *Macbeth* which was made with "Playboy" money and a Kenneth Tynan script:

"That was really the reverse of *Cleopatra*—it's a film which I think gets better every time it's shown; and although it opened in a hail of anti-'Playboy' and anti-Tynan publicity, I think it's a film which one day even the critics will revalue upwards. People are still far too rigid about what they'll accept as adaptations of Shakespeare, and the marvellous thing about working with Polanski was that in an age of specialists he could literally make an entire film by himself—doing everything from lighting and dubbing to set-dressing and special effects. He taught me about the illusion of film, about how something in a studio could be photographed to look like something totally different. He's a magician."

Miss Annis has not made many other films—not at any rate ones she wishes to talk about—largely because she's not happy with much of what she gets sent to read: "One always opens a script thinking 'hurrah, money, fame, experience' but then the writing is so offensively vacuous and you end up as the 'bird' to some aging male star from Hollywood, and it really won't do." She plans to spend the rest of this year at Stratford, playing not only Juliet but also Cressida to Mike Gwilym's Troilus later in the summer:

"I don't know what kind of performance I'll be giving, but, after all the rehearsal and discussion the RSC go in for, I'll certainly be able to read for a degree in Shakespearian verse analysis. At the end of the next eight months I think I'll know everything I'll ever need to know about Stratford, but I'm looking forward to a life in the country after so long in London. I've rented a cottage with a vegetable garden and I plan to become a home-grown-food bore.

"After that, who knows? The one thing they can't say about me is that I'm predictable or even consistent as an actress, and consistency is what I dread most. It's not what live acting is supposed to be about."

Sheridan Morley

Coliseum

Richard Evidon

Josephine Barstow is the ENO's new Elizabeth of Valois. She is youthful and lovely, and sheer verisimilitude immediately, powerfully arrests sympathy for the benevolent woman reassuring her war-ravaged subjects. Miss Barstow then charts Elizabeth's progress from lovesick princess to tragic queen with singing and acting of exceptionally vivid, consistent and precisely defined emotions.

This heroine is regal and vibrantly human. In her two strophes of consolation she fills the soaring lines with ample, bright and unbroken tone, avoiding easy sentimentality. In her anguished confrontation with Philip she amplifies the vocal gestures with a tragedienne's careful movements. Few sopranos have the courage to take Verdi at his word and to save their dolcissimos and pianissimos for the *preghiera* and closing scene. In doing this Miss Barstow made the last act unusually poignant and emotionally fulfilling.

The performance ended up being about Elizabeth of Valois, about a simple and voluptuous splendidly in full bel canto grew credibility after an insubstantial Veil Song (she hasn't the mezzo tints to murmur exotically round those low Es). The men were outclassed. Tom Swift's Carlos sounded dutifully stylish but looked utterly unconvincing. Clifford Grant's Philip has lost some of his former authority, and was no match for Dennis Wicks's imperious Grand Inquisitor. Posa's burning idealism was often quenched by Christian du Plessis's foppishly insincere demeanour. Mark Elder's broadly affectionate pacing needs no justification in this grandest of operas; in later performances he will surely start and sustain each tempo more steadily and improve the shaky ensemble.

Miss Barstow is cause for another look at this misconceived, visually muddled production. It has a few virtues of its own: it is beautifully lit; Carlos's suicide is an effective solution to the final curtain dilemma; the present performing text (the familiar revision plus the whole Fontainebleau act) ought to be adopted universally; Andrew Porter's translation from the French is unaffectedly eloquent.

Triple bill

Covent Garden

John Percival

The Royal Ballet on Thursday repeated last week's triple bill with alternative casts in most of the leading roles. Any programme that has Nureyev's Apollo as its centrepiece is set fair for success. It is among his finest roles, not only danced with superb muscular control, but also modulated to convey a powerful development from the newborn child to the god assuming his birthright. Lynn Seymour, Ann Jenner and Laura Connor as his three muses gave expressive support.

Nureyev's Apollo is by now familiar; his Oberon is new to London. For three-quarters of its length I thought it a better performance than he gave at Edinburgh last autumn, perhaps because the larger stage suits him better. But he flagged during the long main solo, which could be the lingering result of his recent illness.

Much of his dancing showed him in excellent form, especially the many pirouettes which are a motif of the role. His acting, too, is both vivid and individually conceived within the framework of Ashton's choreography. He reveals a rare majesty in the role, and at the same time more humour than it generally has. But if he is to continue in the part he really should have second thoughts about his unflattering variant on the costume.

The other work was *The Concert*, with Laura Connor replacing Seymour. Her facial expressions are not so unfailingly funny, but she does bring off some delicious touches, especially at the moment when she realizes that her chair has been removed from beneath her and apprehensively looks round. Eloquently expressive gestures enable her to fill out the part with uproarious success.

David Wall played the erring husband and Vergie Derman his wife. In place of Georgina Parkinson's implacable severity, Derman offers a stern gentility which serves equally well in overwhelming her husband and every other man in sight. Wall substitutes an almost apoplectic frenzy for the genial enthusiasm which Michael Coleman displays in his philanderings, and instead of retiring behind a copy of *The Times* he uses the *Daily Another Newspaper*: a subtle touch, that, to bring out the true enormity of the character.

A dream game

The Land of Palms

Orange Tree, Richmond

Irving Wardle

David Cregan is a dramatist who writes big plays for small stages, which presumably accounts for his disappearance from central London in favour of adventurous provincial companies. Even so, it is amazing that a piece as good as this should have taken four years to move within reach of London audiences since its first appearance at Darlington.

Cregan's special talent is for dramatizing Anglo-Saxon attitudes by creating fantastic actions well removed from daily experience. His characters could be played in masks and they go a long way towards achieving Gide's old dream of a *commedia* of modern life.

This gives him the rare advantage of being able to start with a theme rather than a story. In this play he is concerned with the collision of authoritarian tradition and drop-out morality: a forbiddingly abstract starting point which he converts into a power struggle between an idealistic collective and a splinter group of the Foreign Legion for control of an oasis in the North African desert.

The piece is at once a dream and a game, picking up the tiny but incurable resentments we carry from childhood and magnifying them into a life-and-death affair and locating them in an action bristling with impossible coincidences so as to set extravagant improbability in comic contrast with everyday banality.

The two privates march into the desert under the command of their luscious leader (Christina Greatrex). On invading the oasis, one discovers his long-lost enemy and the other his long-lost girlfriend. The commune defend themselves simply by failing to recognize there is a war on. The most motherly of the group solicitously inquires to the most bellicose of the Legionnaires: "I used to be a primary school teacher, would you like to talk to me?"

Meanwhile Moles (Sam Kelly) the group's spiritual leader, is slowly unwrapping a parcel marked "N. Moles, North Africa" which proves to contain a mitre which he dons to deflower the enemy commander.

In the second act, the fantasy runs amuck and loses some of its all-important realistic underpinning. Otherwise, the collision between the two moralities is sustained with extraordinary mental agility and capacity for surprise.

Conventionally staged the play might seem ridiculous. Played as it is at the Orange Tree on a neutral floor area with the simplest lighting, it carries absolute conviction. Rhys McConnochie's company, all unknown to me, play with wit, elegance, and an unshakable sincerity which confidently cantilevers the fantasy out into the void.

Rita Streich

Camden Festival

Alan Blyth

In a musically complicated world, Rita Streich's recitals often please for their blessed simplicity of approach. She chooses songs that suit her bright but monochrome soprano, then treats them with good taste. Hers are not very searching interpretations but ones that have the merit of firm, rhythmic control and unaffected grace.

So it was again at the Town Hall, Euston Road, on Thursday, with Geoffrey Parsons accommodating himself to her style like the sensitive accompanist he always is.

At first all was not vocally well. A touch of strain and unaccustomed threads in the tone spoilt an imaginative little Mozart group, although enough was suggested in "Un moto di gioia", written as an alternative to "Deh vieni", to remind us of Miss Streich's old role of Susanna, but hereabouts charm and a way with words had to make up for the shortcomings.

Her Schubert was an odd mixture. "Im Frühling" surely has hidden sorrows not really touched upon by either singer or player and "Das Lied im Grünen" really needs to soar more easily in praise of spring. The lighter and effervescent setting of Schlegel's "Der Schmetterling" was another matter. Here the dancing, inquiring butterfly was caught perfectly on the wing both in voice and piano, and Miss Streich's interpretation was pointed but never arched.

There were similar contrasts in a Greig group, the delights of a first meeting of lovers, "Erstes Begegnen" was more surely related than the more mature passion of "Ich liebe dich", but a selection of Brahms's always welcome folk-song settings was wholly successful.

Richard Strauss is, of course, natural Streich territory, although "Die Nacht" really calls for more variety and tonal contrast than she can bring to it. "All' mein Gedanken" and even the cloying "Schalgende Herzen" fell willingly under her gaze. Two old favourites, Schumann's "Der Nussbaum" and Schubert's "Seligkeit" proved apt encores, confirming the impression of Miss Streich as an instinctive rather than a particularly original interpreter. Both those songs and the Strauss benefited from Mr Parsons's attentive and easily phrased accompaniments.

Covent Garden Proms

Covent Garden Proms, from Monday until April 5, will include the first night of Sir Georg Solti conducting *Die Frau ohne Schatten*.

For the fifth year in succession with the financial support of the Midland Bank, four different operas and seven ballets will be presented. This includes the return of *Fidelio*, conducted by Reginald Goodall with James King, Marita Napier and Donald McIntyre, and *Die Frau ohne Schatten* with Heather Harper, Helga Dernesch, Ruth Hesse, James King and Walter Berry. Also performed will be *La clemenza di Tito*, conducted by John Pritchard and with Janet Baker. Christa Ludwig sings the title role in *Carmen*, conducted by Jesus Lopez-Cobos, with Jon Vickers and Ileana Cotrubas.

The ballets will be *The Dream*, *Apollo*, and *Concert*; and *Serenade*, *Afternoon of a Faun*, *Twilight* and *Elite Syncopations* with Merle Park, Lynn Seymour, Anthony Dowell and David Wall.

Antiques

Japanese revival up West

St Christopher's Place, a narrow olde-worlde alleyway off Oxford Street nearly opposite Bond Street Underground Station, has always been one of my favourite antiques haunts. It has changed a lot in the last few years. Some shops like Michael Rochford's china emporium and Jack Lipitch's antique furniture gallery have gone; others have opened. But the general quality of the shops is extremely high, from the English and European porcelain of A. J. Filkins to the old ethnic jewelry of Turak and the buttons and cufflinks of "The Button Queen". (How about a new collar-stud branch called "The Stud King"?) If you are there at lunchtime, you can have *tempura*—king prawns and vegetables fried in deep oil—at the Japanese restaurant which used to be called the Hiroko but is now called the Masako. If you are feeling weary at teatime, you can go round the corner into Wigmore Street to Bendicks for tea or coffee and bitzermints.

St Christopher's Place also leads into the Barrett Street Antique Supermarket which is especially strong on antique jewelry and engravings. I long for them to sell medieval headdresses, so I can write an article headed "The Wimples of Barrett Street".

Among the comparative newcomers to St Christopher's Place are John and Sandy Milne Henderson, who in their bijou gallery have staged a number of valuable exhibitions of Chinese and Japanese paintings during the last two years. While limitations of space rule out screens and the larger hanging scrolls, they have shown major works of art. There have been exhibitions of Japanese paintings and prints, but they made their greatest impact with the show of "Nanga Fan Painting" of March-April last year, which included a number of works in a Japanese style which currently appeals to the western taste.

Their next show, to be held from April 9 to 23, is more adventurous: it would cause a stir in Tokyo as well as in London. They are putting on display 90 woodblock prints by Sekkei and 30 by Koyo, two Japanese artists working at the turn of the century (our Art Nouveau period) whose work has been hitherto unknown in the west. At first glance you might imagine that these works, of calculated simplicity and imperious bravura, had had a powerful influence on European art of this century. Parallels can be seen from Art Nouveau through Art Deco down to the latest wallpaper design. Paradoxically, however, there is little likelihood that these artists were known in the west, and within the context of Japanese art they would have been seen as a revival—not unlike our Art Nouveau and Art Deco Revivals of recent years.

Neither Sekkei nor Koyo made any stir when their works appeared in the early years of the century. Sekkei, the more important of the two, was attempting a revival of a style originated by the major artist Ogata Korin, whose creative period spanned the last decade of the seventeenth century and the first two of the eighteenth. It was a quintessentially Japanese form of decoration, natural forms being adapted or distorted in the cause of flat patterning, and the arbitrary shapes emphasized by gold or silver grounds. After Korin's death in 1716 a few followers continued in this tradition, but by 1750 the style had run its course. Then, in 1802, came the first revival, in a splendid colour-printed book called *The Drawing Book of Korin*, designed by an obscure artist named Hochu who adapted and even transformed existing Korin designs for the print-makers. In the next 20 years a number of books was devoted to Korin's work, and two great artists, Hoitsu and Kiitsu, worked in this vein, though with the modifications inevitable in any revival. And then the vogue ended again, and while the name of Korin was preeminent as that of the "prince of decorators", his manner was as defunct as the Italian baroque in the mid-nineteenth century.

When Sekkei took up Korin again around 1900, it was a "revival of a revival", therefore. The distance from Korin was immense, and the Japanese public was unable to bridge the gap. Today his sweeping simplifications, and his superb sense of how the colour print medium could express them—making a virtue of even the most violent of aniline colours—carry different implications for us, brought up on Matisse, the Fauves and the art of the poster since Lautrec, even though sophisticated art-lovers may well be ignorant of Korin, let along the Korinizers.

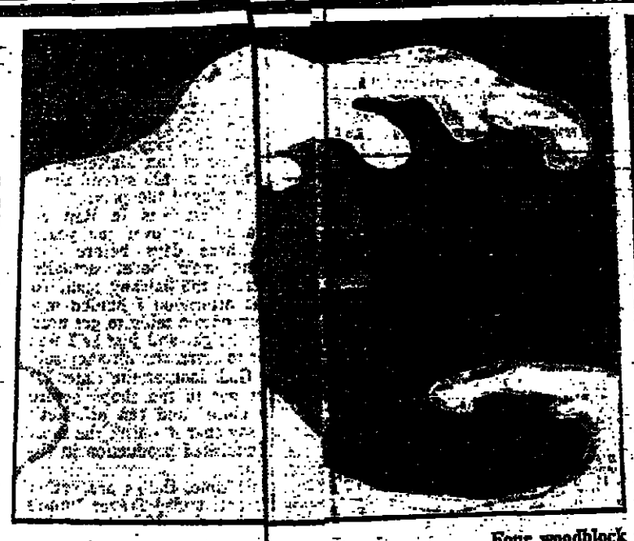
The Milne Hendersons are calling their show "Art Nouveau in Japan". They make it clear that they do not think Sekkei's work (rare in the west as in Japan) had any great influence on our own Art Nouveau. But it would be perfectly reasonable to think of it as *Japanese* Art Nouveau.

Mr Milne Henderson draws special attention to the sheer virtuosity of the woodblock technique, in which brush effects have been simulated almost miraculously:

These prints were produced by the familiar woodblock processes, but the artists and their printers went far beyond the flat surfaces of Ukiyo-e printing. Many prints are heavily gauffraged, heavily printed on soft papo give a contoured effect); e are large areas of gold silver which give the desia dazzling appearance fa beyond anything associatedith a mere print, especiallyhen the gold or silver is died to an embossed area. Additionally, the printing successfully seeks to mirror techniques of painting; a particular Korin trick was to drop a blob of wet colour onto an area of a different wet colour, allowing them to co-mingle (in Japanese, tarashikomi). How this effect can be reproduced by woodblock printing one cannot imagine—but here it is, again and again.

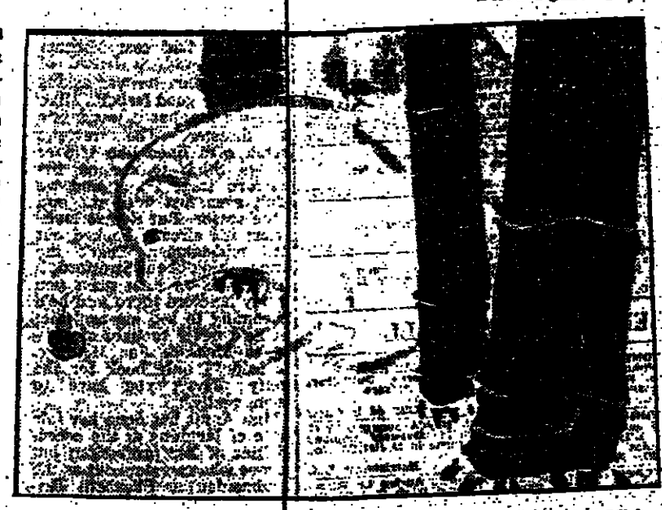
Prices for the prints will range from £40 to £300 each. A word of warning: the Milne Hendersons are planning to move to new premises in Mount Street, so before visiting them at 31 St Christopher's Place you had better telephone them at 01-487 5301 to make sure they are still there. But even if they have moved, St Christopher's Place is still a happy hunting ground.

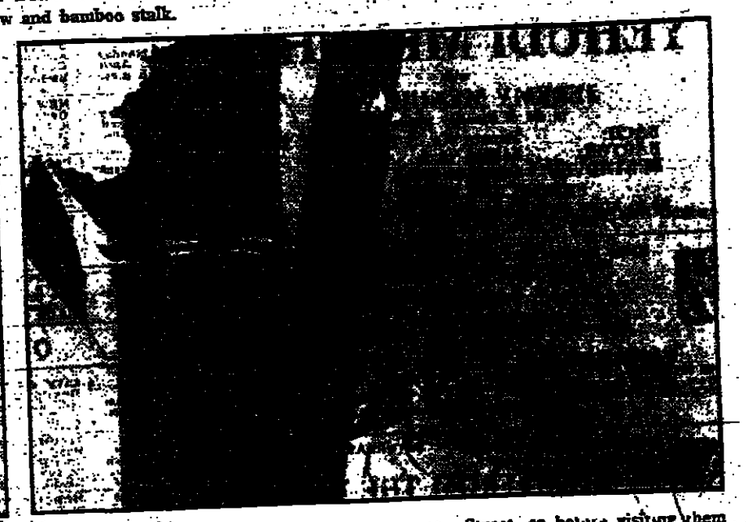
Bevis Hillier





Four woodblock prints by Sekkei:
Above left: The Great Wave.
Above right: Heron reeds and wattled breakwater. Below left: Confrontation between puppies and a snail.
Below right: Sparrow and bamboo stalk.





Saturday Bazaar

For the Epicure

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Food

How to be a good mixer

I think more cooks would bake cakes at home if they were aware of the easy "all-in mix" method of preparation. No tedious creaming of butter and sugar—all the ingredients are mixed together in one bowl. It sounds too good to be true, but it really does work.

The soft consistency of modern fats like the quick-creaming margarines have made this one-stage method possible. It is based on the fact that all the ingredients blend quickly and smoothly together, so you cannot use a hard fat like butter; choose a soft margarine.

Recipes that use this method include self raising flour with added baking powder to give an extra lift since, without the traditional creaming of the fat and sugar, less air is incorporated in the mix. It is also important to have all the ingredients at room temperature so that they blend evenly. If you keep your margarine and eggs in the refrigerator, weigh out the ingredients into the basin without cracking the eggs and allow to stand in the warmth of the kitchen for about 30 minutes before mixing. With a mixing machine, just place the dry ingredients in the bowl and add the margarine and eggs. Mix on low speed until blended, then increase to maximum speed until smooth—it takes less than a minute.

Not all recipes can be adapted to this particular method, but the simple basic mixture can, and the following are good examples.

Chocolate cake
Makes one 7in sandwich cake

1 heaped tablespoon cocoa powder;
2 tablespoons hot water—see recipe;
4 oz self raising flour;
1 level teaspoon baking powder;
4 oz castor sugar;
4 oz soft creaming margarine;
2 large eggs.

Measure the cocoa powder into a small basin and stir in the hot water—taken from a kettle just off the boil. Mix to a smooth, fairly thick paste; prepare just before you mix the cake so that the blend is warm and soft and will therefore mix evenly with the other ingredients.

Sift the flour and baking powder into a large mixing basin, add the sugar and the margarine. Crack in the eggs and add the paste of cocoa powder and water. Using a wooden spoon, stir to blend the ingredients together and then beat thoroughly for 1 minute to get a soft cake consistency.

Spoon the mixture into 2 greased and lined 7in sponge sandwich tins and spread level. Place in the centre of a moderate oven (350 deg F or gas 4) and bake for 25-30 minutes. Remove from the tins and allow layers to cool.

An easy and very reliable chocolate icing can be made by stirring a hot sugar and water syrup into sifted icing sugar and cocoa powder. The icing is quite thin at first but thickens up on cooling. You can use it at any stage you like, thin for a coating, or quite thick for a fudge frosting.

Chocolate fudge frosting

3oz icing sugar;
1oz cocoa powder;
1½oz butter;
2 tablespoons water;
2oz castor sugar.

Sift the icing sugar and cocoa powder into a basin. Measure the butter, water and sugar into a saucepan. Set over low heat and stir to dissolve the sugar. Bring up to the boil, then draw off the heat and pour into the sifted ingredients. Stir to make a smooth soft chocolate icing. Allow to cool until a thick coating consistency so that it will not run off the cake.

Spread a little of the frosting on one chocolate cake layer and top with the second layer. Spoon the remainder on top and with a knife spread evenly over the top of the cake. Leave until the icing has set firm.

Teabreads, the kind you serve sliced and buttered, can be a great asset for weekend teas. They can be made in advance because they keep well and they are not so rich to eat as cake. The quick one stage method can apply to this kind of recipe, too.

Banana bread
Makes one large loaf

8oz self raising flour;
1 level teaspoon baking powder;
1lb (2 large) ripe bananas;
6oz castor sugar;
4oz soft creaming margarine;
2 large eggs.

Sift the flour and baking powder into a large mixing basin. Add the sugar and the soft margarine. Peel the bananas and then mash them them with a fork and add to the ingredients along with the two cracked eggs. Using a wooden spoon stir to blend the ingredients. Then beat thoroughly for 1 minute to get a soft mixture.

Spoon the mixture into a large greased and lined 9in by 5in by 3in loaf pan. Place above centre in a moderate oven (350 deg F or gas 4) and bake for 45 minutes. Cool for a moment and then remove from the tin and leave until quite cold. If wrapped in foil, this bread tastes even better after a day or so. Serve in thick slices spread with butter and honey or demi-sel cheese.

Katie Stewart

For the Epicure

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Travel

Eilat's desert song

The strange fish left its shelter of coral and slipped towards me. I held my breath and waited as its hideous eyes and bulging mouth came nearer and nearer. Suddenly it flicked its tail and accelerated. As it veered away I got the picture I wanted from a distance of just a few inches.

I was a hundred yards out in the Gulf of Eilat and 20 feet below the surface—which can not be bad for a non-swimmer. The truth was that I was standing, safe and sound, in Eilat's newest tourist attraction—a circular marvel of armoured glass through which could be seen a wonderland of coral inhabited by shoals of tropical fish. No chance here of boredom for every second brought a tantalizing glimpse of the Red Sea's majesty.

The observatory was opened last year and is already a natural magnet for the tourists who descend on Israel's best known resort. There is also a museum and aquarium in which are displayed many kinds of exotic marine life, some comparatively rare, that are found in the Red Sea.

As a holiday resort Eilat may be young, but as a seaport its roots are buried deep in history. Moses, it is said, led the Tribes of Israel through Eilat and it was a bustling port in the time of King Solomon (the Queen of Sheba amazed the locals when she passed through on her way to meet Solomon, leaving behind the pink blush of her beauty on the mountains—which can be seen to this day, we are assured).

The port was a famous centre for trade in gold, ivory and spices from the East (King Solomon's mines still produce copper as they have done for centuries). The Romans knew it as Aclana; the Crusaders came, built their castles and went; the British called it Umm Rashrash. The relics of time remain to intrigue the tourist but it is the climate that really draws the sun starved to Israel's "deep south".

For this is "real" sun with a vengeance. The temperature is often well up in the nineties, even in October, and as for rain, the trusty old brolly can safely be left at home for only about seven eighths of an inch falls each year.

Desert breezes ensure no problem of humidity no matter how hot it gets—though Eilatis confess to a healthy thirst, which visitors usually endorse with gusto. This and the energy-sapping heat lowers social barriers and makes for a lazy, relaxed atmosphere in which to shake off winter blues and recharge batteries.

Not that there is nothing for the energetic to do; apart from the sea and its attendant pleasures, there are mountains to be explored and the desert to be challenged (though the latter should be approached with caution, as locals will warn you. It is wise to seek their advice before embarking on ambitious expeditions).

Eilat has had its critics concerned, as they have been elsewhere in the country, about over-development, and citing the large luxury hotels that have sprung up in recent years, presumably with dollar-laden American tourists in mind. With more and more visitors arriving from Europe the critics urge a more modest approach.

In Eilat the argument is extended on the grounds that it is regarded, even by the Israelis themselves, as a retreat from urban pressures. It is a difficult problem and tourist officials reply that it is being tackled; that facilities are increasingly being made available to suit most pockets. Certainly no one argues with the situation at present where rows of sad hotels stand half empty in what should be a booming resort.

Israel's advantage in terms is its size; it is small enough to be reached in a day—not that anyone would be in such a hurry. There is (he said) an escalating country to be wanted through which it is a process of personal liberty now for there are treasures, cultural, religious and historical around. When change does come there is little doubt that during eight out of the past tourism will expand to mind-boggling dimensions, for years (the continued) we have Holy Land has an irresistible socialist government. In attraction—and not only to the respect, namely the erosion religious pilgrim of individual freedom and

Perhaps the best way to enjoy and appreciate Eilat is to use it as a base to make grand tours through the Holy Land, and then when all the famous sights are seen time is done "recuperating" at the resort before returning home for only an hour's flight from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv). It would be time well spent.

Further information: Israel Government Tourist Office, 59 St James's Street, London, SW1. Tel. 01-493 2431.

Eilat: An ancient seaport and now a twentieth-century retreat.

PARLIAMENT, March 26, 1976

Balancing personal liberty and social justice

House of Commons

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C), opening a debate on the erosion of personal liberty, said it was common ground that the first duty of last year Government was to protect the liberty of its citizens against external attack. External threats to liberty were comparatively easy to identify. It was less easy to identify the threat from within but liberty could be destroyed from within as well as from without. There is (he said) an escalating erosion of personal liberty now taking place before our very eyes. That erosion is not taking place by chance. In many ways it is the inevitable consequence of socialism.

During eight out of the past 12 years (he continued) we have had a socialist government. In that respect, namely the erosion of individual freedom and the aggrandisement of the state, the Government have been remarkably successful.

The supreme issue of our times is this whether we are going to opt for the free society or whether we are going to go for the socialist state. The case for the free society for too long has not been made with sufficient vigour and clarity.

I can understand (he said) even if I cannot share, the view that the restriction on personal liberty involved in high rates of taxation was justified if it meant the granting of new freedoms, better schools, better housing, a better health service for all, but none of these objectives have been achieved.

The erosion of freedom and the free market in housing has meant that the slums were still there with the only alternative to home ownership the serfdom of the council estate.

Mr David Weitzman (Hackney, North, and Stoke Newington, Lab) said it was surely not Mr Gow's intention to *confuse what he* meant by liberty with complete licence. They all recognized, for example, the need for the liberty of the press to report matters fairly and fully and the need for liberty of speech. But they had the laws of libel and slander to protect persons against expressions which would expose the individual to hatred or contempt.

Conservative MPs might criticize certain items of public expenditure, but the Government had to consider what was best for the needs of the majority.

Mr Cranley Onslow (Woking, C) said that people generally were deeply worried about various aspects of the loss of personal freedom. The more bureaucracy there was the worse the bureaucracy one got.

Mr Ioan Evans (Aberdare, Lab) said the freedom of choice for the vast majority was now far greater than in the prewar years when the Tories were in office. It was no use then talking of educational opportunity when in overcrowded classrooms a third of the children suffered from malnutrition.

The Labour Party had created the welfare state and the poverty, degradation, and human suffering of the past had been removed.

The freedom of the land speculator was against the interests of the ratepayer, taxpayer, and householder. Freedom for the asset stripper meant a denial of freedom for many men to be employed.

Dr Shirley Summerskill, Under Secretary, Home Office (Halifax, Lab) said she would support Mr Gow if, in fact, an erosion of personal liberty was taking place. But it was impossible to reconcile such terms with the Labour Government's record.

The Government has established the Parliamentary Commissioner to protect the rights of the individual. The Sex Discrimination Act and Equal Pay Act had been brought in and earlier this month the House had discussed proposals to strengthen the Race Relations Act. There was also the Employment Protection Act and the Fair Employment Bill for Northern Ireland.

Many other measures had been implemented which, like those, were specifically designed to increase, not erode, the range of opportunities open to millions.

Greater tax revenue had permitted Britain to help those who needed it. National Insurance contributions enabled supplementary benefits to be paid to the old, poor, and *out of work*, giving them at least a basic income which the Opposition could not consider an erosion of personal liberty.

The Government's policies on comprehensive education represented a widening rather than a restriction of choice for the vast majority of children. There was no truth in the suggestion that the community land scheme would lead to an erosion of personal liberty and freedom of choice.

There was little basis for the allegations that personal liberty was being eroded. The Government aim was to protect the rights of the individual to the fullest extent compatible with the equal protection of the rights of his fellow citizen and the well being of society as a whole. They were not seeking uniformity but the opportunity for more people to develop and exercise their abilities and talents in work, school or any facet of society.

Rights (she said) can be guaranteed effectively only where there is a proper balance between individual freedom and social justice. You cannot achieve the first without the second.

The maintenance of such a balance would continue to direct the Government's policies. We will continue (she said) to make every effort to see that the legitimate desire of the individual for liberty and freedom of choice is satisfied.

Mr Angus Maude, for the Opposition, (Stratford-on-Avon, C) said the risk with which Britain was confronted was a steady movement towards the corporate state rather than towards the socialist society. As the powers of the trade unions increased and Government agencies in industry conferred with the CBI and the TUC before any major measure of economic policy which affected industry was finalized they were much nearer to the corporate or fascist state than to the purely socialist state.

We are no nearer (he said) to the socialist state than we have ever been; and the socialist state is impossible unless you are prepared to have an almost totally authoritarian state.

One could not have complete socialist control and planning unless one was prepared to introduce the direction of labour as well.

It was not true to say that the Government must always act in the interests of the majority. It could not be pretended that the race relations legislation, for example, had been carried out in the interests of the majority.

Too often, under the guise of the will of the majority prevailing, the will of a power minority was prevailing. Trade unionists were not a majority yet the right to work was being dictated by a minority and sometimes by a minority of the minority.

The danger (he said) is that we shall impoverish ourselves not only economically but spiritually and morally by trying to deal with too many small details, by trying to iron out every apparent unfairness, every apparent anomaly, and every apparent injustice.

The debate was adjourned.

Privilege complaint not raised soon enough

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas), in a statement, said that yesterday Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) raised with him what he claimed to be a matter of privilege arising out of a document, a copy of which he handed in, setting out an offer by European Ferries Ltd to the ordinary stockholders of the Felixstowe Dock and Railway Company.

This document (he said) is dated February 25 and its contents appear to have been a matter of public knowledge from an even earlier date, having been reported in the press on February 20 and 21. It is clear therefore that this matter has been known about for some time.

As is made clear on page 343 of *Erskine May*, before I allow a complaint of privilege to be made to me in the House I am bound to satisfy myself that the matter has been raised at the earliest opportunity. Had I known yesterday the facts about this document which I have explained to the House I would not have been able to permit Mr Skinner to raise the matter as a complaint of breach of privilege.

Clearly I cannot now allow priority over the orders of the day to a motion relating to the matter of the complaint. Mr Skinner, if he so wishes, may pursue the matter by other means.

Mr Max Madden (Sowerby, Lab) said that yesterday Mr Brian Sedgemore (Luton, West, Lab) had raised with the Speaker the related issue about the possibility of MPs who voted on private business who had a pecuniary interest in that business being disallowed. Would you, Mr Speaker, (he asked) be prepared to consider giving guidance to the House at a later date on this issue which many of us believe to be of great interest and concern to the House?

The Speaker—I am afraid I cannot rule on general matters. There must be a specific complaint. I understand no such complaint was registered.

House adjourned, 4.31 pm.

Law Report March 26 1976

Queen's Bench Division

Duties of rent officers and rent committees

London Housing & Commercial Properties Ltd v Cowan
Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Thompson and Mr Justice Kenneth Jones
[Judgment delivered March 25]

The duties and obligations of a rent officer and a rent assessment committee on an application for reassessment of a registered rent during the three-year period for which the rent was originally assessed were considered by the Divisional Court.

The court allowed an appeal by Commercial Properties Ltd against a decision of a rent assessment committee of the London Rent Amendment Panel on August 18, 1975, that the installation of a new water heater in the flat of Mr Joseph Cowan, of Thanet Street, Camden, London, was not such a change of condition as to render the rent no longer a fair rent.

Section 44 (3) of the Rent Act, 1968, provides: "Where a rent for a dwelling-house has been registered under this Act no application by the tenant alone for the registration of a different rent for that dwelling-house shall be entertained before the expiry of three years from the relevant date . . . except on the ground that, since that date, there has been such a change in the condition of the dwelling-house (including the making of any improvement therein), the terms of the tenancy or any other circumstances taken into consideration when the rent was registered or confirmed as to make the registered rent no longer a fair rent."

Section 46 provides: "(1) In determining . . . what rent is or would be a fair rent under a regulated tenancy of a dwelling-house, regard shall be had . . . to all the circumstances (other than personal circumstances) and in particular to the age, character and locality of the dwelling-house and to its state of repair."

Schedule 6 by paragraph 9 provides: "(1) The [rent assessment committee shall make such inquiry, if any, as they think fit and consider any information supplied or representation made to them . . . (a) if it appears to them that the rent registered or confirmed by the rent officer is a fair rent, they shall confirm that rent; (b) if it does not appear to them that that rent is a fair rent, they shall determine a fair rent for the dwelling-house. (2) Where the committee confirm or determine a rent under this paragraph they shall notify the landlord, the tenant and the rent officer."

Mr John Mowbray, Q.C. and Mr Stephen Sedley for the landlords; Mr Harry Woolf as amicus curiae.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the matter concerned a flat in a building owned by the landlords. The tenant had a regulated tenancy of the flat at all material times. The flat fell within section 44 of the Act. On January 16, 1973, an application was made to the rent officer to fix a fair rent, and he fixed it at £795 per annum, including £28 for services. The effective date was February 28, 1973.

Shortly after, the landlords took out an old gas boiler and substituted a modern electric boiler at a cost of £220, and they applied to the rent officer for an increase of rent. Under section 44(3) there was normally a limit of three years during which a registration of rent could not be altered, but, exceptionally, a "mid-term" application could be entertained when there had been such a change in the condition of the dwelling as to make the registered rent no longer a fair rent.

The proper approach to subsection (3) was to ask whether there had been changes in the condition of the house or in the other factors specifically referred to in the section and, if there had, then to ask whether because of the changes the rent was no longer fair. The door would then be open for application to the rent officer.

There had been some important argument as to the meaning of subsection (3). The rent officer had jurisdiction to reassess the rent. On the other hand, it was said that when he came to assess a fair rent he must not increase it except as the change in conditions warranted. That was not the right answer. When he came in it was under section 46 and he was under no limitations beyond those set out in that section. Section 46(1) gave a plain answer to the argument. It indicated what were to be the only tests to be applied by the rent officer, namely the purposes of fixing rent under the Act. The only concern of the committee was to deal with matters referred to it under Schedule 6. He submitted that the rent officer might be required to consider whether there had been an improvement of the appropriate kind, and if he reached that conclusion then it was not for the committee to question the propriety of the rent officer's decision. They could only review his assessment of fair rent under section 46.

The difference between the main arguments was small, and it really turned on a proper meaning of "fair rent". Mr Woolf said that fair rent meant a section 46 rent. Mr Sedley said that a fair rent in the circumstances of the present case could include a rent which was deliberately cut down so as to be no more than that fixed in 1973.

Mr Woolf's solution appeared to be the right one. His Lordship could not accept Mr Sedley's argument because the fixing of a fair rent could never mean that one had to distort the idea of fair rent to correct an incorrect use of section 44.

The appeal should be allowed, and the case sent back to the committee with a direction to make a reassessment of the rent having regard to section 46.

Mr Justice Thompson and Mr Justice Kenneth Jones agreed.

Solicitors: Rooks & Co; Penny Cushing; Treasury Solicitor.

Bank wins claim for sovereign immunity

Trendtex Trading Corporation v Central Bank of Nigeria
Before Mr Justice Donaldson

Where the major business of a foreign bank can be said to be state business, the bank is an alter ego of the state and proceedings against it infringe the doctrine of sovereign immunity.

His Lordship, in the Commercial Court, so held in discharging an injunction obtained by the plaintiffs, Trendtex Trading Corporation, until trial or further order, by which the Central Bank of Nigeria was required to retain funds in this country sufficient to meet their claim against the bank for failing to honour its obligations.

Mr F. P. Neill, QC, Mr M. A. Pickering and Mr D. P. O'Connell for Trendtex; Mr T. H. Bingham, QC, and Mr A. G. Guest for the bank.

MR JUSTICE DONALDSON said that Trendtex claimed damages from the bank for failing to honour its obligations under various irrevocable letters of credit. Their claims and those of other claimants totalled nearly $50m. The reason why the bank had not paid was that the Government of Nigeria had instructed it not to do so.

Trendtex had obtained an injunction requiring the bank to retain funds in this country which would be sufficient to meet their claims. The bank now sought to discharge the injunction and set aside the proceedings on the ground that they infringed the sovereign immunity of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

In early 1975 the then federal government and agencies in Nigeria placed contracts with suppliers throughout the world for 20m tons of cement. Delivery was over a period of 12 months. A new military administration took over the government in July, 1975, and found itself faced with serious congestion of shipping in the ports of Nigeria to which the cement was consigned. To deal with the situation, the government, inter alia, introduced import controls for cement and instructed the bank to refuse payment for unauthorized consignments.

The sole issue was whether the doctrine of sovereign immunity under English law required that the proceedings should be set aside and the injunctions discharged. It was not for his Lordship to form any view on whether the bank was entitled in law to refuse payment under the letters of credit.

The onus of establishing immunity was on the bank. Mr Bingham submitted that the bank was sufficiently a part of the government for any proceedings against it in personam to infringe the sovereign immunity of the state of Nigeria.

Mr Neill submitted, inter alia, that the bank was a legal entity independent of the government, and that the assets held by it in this country were not owned or sufficiently controlled by it for any right of immunity to be infringed by the present proceedings or injunctions.

What had to be decided was whether the bank was an arm, an organ, an alter ego, a part or an agency of the Nigerian government. The use of the word "agency" indicated not an agent but a body which was part of the machinery of the state. The state could claim immunity from suit for any agency but not for a simple agent.

The bank's juridical status and practical working was a matter of evidence. The bank was a legal entity, incorporated in 1958 by the Central Bank of Nigeria Act, which was amended in 1962 and 1969. It neither originally nor as amended declared the bank to be a department of state.

The bank's prime function was to issue and control the national currency of Nigeria, to operate the machinery of exchange control and to act as the treasury, in the literal sense of the word, of the state of Nigeria. Those were essential functions of the state and could not be performed by any other body. In addition, the bank was charged with the supervision and regulation of the banking industry, which again was essentially a function of the state. Its power to act as banker to the provincial state governments was one which could be performed by a banker but was much more appropriate to an arm of the federal government. Similarly its advisory function could be discharged by a private individual but was more appropriately undertaken by a state official or body.

It was only when one came to the bank's ancillary functions, such as issuing letters of credit in a commercial transaction, that one left the area of operations which was properly that of the state. Even then it was necessary to bear in mind that the bank's power to have "private" customers was severely limited and that it was forbidden to pay interest on deposits. It therefore lacked the most important powers of an ordinary bank. Its business was, in truth, the state's business. Accordingly there was no doubt, looking at the matter as a whole, the bank was an emanation, an arm, an alter ego and a department of the state of Nigeria.

Mr Neill had also submitted that under the legislation of the European Economic Community and, in particular, the Lome Convention, promulgated on January 30, 1976, and coming into force on April 1, 1976, the English courts could not grant immunity to the bank which would not be granted by some or all of the courts of the other members of the EEC.

The first answer to that was that it was still March. The second answer was that when the Convention came into force and took its place in Community law and thus in English law, it might prohibit discrimination between citizens of the EEC states, on the one hand, and those of the African, Caribbean and Pacific states on the other. It would not, however, prohibit discrimination between litigants on grounds other than nationality. Nor would it require the courts of the EEC members to harmonize their policies on sovereign immunity, provided that those policies were not discriminatory on grounds of nationality. The third answer was that Article 62 of the Convention, the article relied upon, related to "matters of establishment and provision of services" which had nothing to do with sovereign immunity.

The injunctions would be discharged, the proceedings set aside and all further proceedings stayed.

His Lordship granted leave to appeal, and ordered that the injunction should be maintained until the hearing of the appeal.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard & Co; Hedleys, Botterell, Roche & Temperley.

Six years for car bonnet rape

Brian Inglis, aged 28, a lorry driver, who was said to have raped a student teacher on the bonnet of a car, was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to six years' imprisonment.

Judge Gwyn Morris, QC, said to Mr Inglis, of Sussex Crescent, Townville, West Yorkshire: "The young woman conducted herself with immense dignity and courage. This was a savage, beastly rape without any mitigating factor."

£5,000 fine for oil discharge

Shell Refining and Marketing UK Ltd was fined £5,000 with £200 costs by magistrates at Grays, Essex, yesterday for discharging oil or an oil mixture into the Thames. The company pleaded not guilty but admitted that last April a valve had proved faulty after a fire. It was granted leave to appeal.

Mr Christopher Carling, for the defence of Shell said the company had reported the discharge. It had taken every precaution and was not guilty of deliberately discharging oil.

Travel Books

Welcome in the hillsides

Wales is a small country, but a concentrated one. Somehow, between the rumpling of the earth's cooling skin, the scouring of glaciers and rivers, and all the fighting, digging, praying and turmoil of the past 10 centuries, the quart has been pretty well squeezed into the pint pot. The land itself is a succession of stunning contrasts. And the reaction between geology and human development has left a mass of knots, bumps and crannies of great interest; and social and cultural nuances which, with the land itself, come to form the magic of Wales. It is a country of such a size, 8,000 square miles, that one person can get to know it well in his lifetime. For Cymruphiles that is part of the attraction. But anyone who claims to understand Wales and the Welsh totally must have been given the wrong information. Another part of the attraction is the mystery and the contradictions.

Now that the new lambs are in the hills, travellers are emerging in greater numbers to search for Wales. And as well as the familiar printed guideropes they should try. *The Companion Guide to North Wales* by Elisabeth Beazley and Peter Howell (Collins, £5). As a guidebook it cuts a considerable dash which lifts it out of the ordinary. Not only is it stuffed with information, with small cameos and curios—I knew there was a Bethlehem in Wales, but did not know there was a Sodom—it is critical, mildly iconoclastic and, thank heaven, not afraid to be opinionated. Mr Beazley and Mr Howell have produced a book which is a bright and gossipy friend.

In part their guide is a kind of black book of Welsh architecture. One village is said to be *unfortunate enough to have the* only church in North Wales by Bruce Vaughan; and the church at Ruabon was "unkindly restored by Ferrey".

No doubt some councillors will dislike the descriptions of some of the towns, but then the Welsh have not generally paid enough attention to design and planning. Holywell is described in the guide as "an ungainly spreading place", and Betws-y-Coed is called "one of the most disappointing places in Wales." And the romance of Llangollen "cannot completely dissolve even when the smells from the [illegible] and the roar of traffic continues far into the night."

The guide is sensibly rounded off with a useful Welsh glossary and a modest Who's Who of the poets, saints, princes and oppressors of the poor of Wales.

Dr Moelwyn Williams' book *The Making of the South Wales Landscape* (Hodder & Stoughton, £5.95), is somewhat sterner stuff; not a guide in the usual sense but nevertheless a fascinating background to the shaping of the landscape of South Wales by its people and the shaping of the people by their land. It is an important contribution to the understanding of this region.

Trevor Fishlock

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Robert Langley makes *Walking the Scottish Border* (Hale, £3.50) sound deceptively easy. He reports surprise from the natives at each end of his journey across the United Kingdom's neck. "It's not the sort of place you can drive along in a car", said the Carlisle hotel porter. "I'll stick to trains", said the Berwick ticket collector.

Yet to anyone with a desire to walk, but a distaste for the tourist routes, the Scottish border is an attractive possibility. It is not, as Langley points out, a national signposted footpath and there are few roads. The landscape of forest, valleys, hills, castles—infinite variations on the wild and rugged theme — provides *pleasure for the eyes* and the mind. The 110-mile trek is far enough to enjoy the escape, but not too far if the need for civilization beckons.

He conveys a boyish enthusiasm, tempered but not destroyed by wet or cold. His guidebook information is sufficient, a primer if no more, and he offers sensible walking advice, based on experience, not slavishly on the rulebook. Thus concentrated foods are eschewed, on the basis that a walker wants something more mouth-watering after a day's hard slog through the hills, even if it means a rucksack a pound or two heavier. Accompanied by a pack of Ordnance Survey maps, Langley makes a genial companion.

Roy Christian defines *The Peak District* (David & Charles, £4.95) as several hundred square miles larger than the official national park, which for the visitor is particularly invaluable —one or two fewer books to carry. The spas of Matlock and Buxton may not be parkland, but they are indefinably Peak District. The book forms part of the publisher's new British *Topographical series*, knowledgeable views, reasonably opinionated. I particularly liked his appreciation of industry and its problems in the Peak.

Is the mining and export of fluorspar worth more, despite the disfigurement it brings to the Castleton and Wirksworth areas, than the landscape it displaces? Tourism, too, is attractive financially, but there is no happy medium as motor-car pollution shows. Mr Christian ensures that we may condone, but we won't forget.

The idea of a holiday as sketched by John Wilcock in *A Guide to Occult Britain* (Sidgwick & Jackson, £6.95) had not previously occurred to me, but I suppose it is no more eccentric than charting our lost branch railway lines. Indeed Mr Wilcock is meticulous in supplying directions and local colour (beware the Jamaica Inn's parrot!). Occult to him supplies his sub-title: "The Quest for Magic in Pagan Britain". He is looking for places where there is "evidence of magic", sites which meant something special to the ancients. As a guide it is often superficial, but then so is our knowledge of the times. Whet your appetite with Wilcock!

Ion Trewin

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Jaques Louis Delpal has produced a beautifully illustrated colourful guide, *Paris Today* (Barrie & Jenkins, £4.95), one of a series published by Editions Jeune Afrique. It is exhaustive in its coverage and delicious to look at. Though in paperback it is well worth £4.95, bearing in mind the 97 colour photographs and the 11 maps and itineraries.

The other one is *Greece* by Robin Mead (Batsford, £4.50) an occasional travel writer in *The Times*. This small volume covers the whole of the country and though it probably does not have too much to offer those already familiar with Greece, it is an excellent and readable book for those contemplating a first visit.

Definitely not a travel book, but a must for devotees is *The Architecture of Ancient Greece* by William Bell Dinsmoor (Batsford, £10). Professor Dinsmoor is a recognized authority on the subject and the third edition of this comprehensive work carries 55 new illustrations. The book is technical, but clearly written and totally absorbing.

In the wandering traveller section I have most enjoyed *On a Shoestring to Coorg* (John Murray, £4.95) which first attracted me by its unusual cover, not having the faintest idea where Coorg was. It turns out to be in the smallest province in India, where Dervla Murphy went by chance with a rucksack, and a five-year-old daughter (that's brave for you). Normally I find such books mawkish, even embarrassing, but this one is cheery and well written, providing a fascinating insight into a little-known area. Both mother and daughter seem to have enjoyed themselves and take the reader along with them.

I also dipped into *The Wandering Tattler*, by Elizabeth Forster (Hutchinson, £3.95). Ostensibly this book is about a search for birds by the 55-year-old author who decided at that age she had had enough of working hard and went off in search of birds in places as far flung as Fiji, Brazil and many other places. It is not just a bird book, however, and throws up a picture of an adventurous and spirited lady.

Coming between the straight travel guide and the wanderers is a new edition of a pocket-sized book on Hongkong. Few people know more about the place than its author, Richard Hughes, who has written for *The Sunday Times* and *The Economist* from there for many years. He has updated the original 1968 edition of *Borrowed Place Borrowed Times* (André Deutsch, £1.25). It is not a guide book by any means, but a thoughtful and vivid analysis of the colony from every point of view—its past, its economy, its social life —and the future. A good read.

Margaret Allen

TUNISIA

a Special Report to mark the twentieth anniversary of independence

Ailing President tightens his grip as unrest grows

by Geoffrey Weston

Tunisia is now celebrating 20 years of independence and, with far more justification than most other Third World countries, salutes the personal achievements of its president, Habib Bourguiba. The two are almost inseparable. It is common to trace the foundation of modern Tunisia back to 1934, when Mr Bourguiba founded the Neo-Destour Party (PSD), which is in power today.

President Bourguiba is almost the longest-ruling head of state in the Third World. The survival of his regime and the stability it has brought the country, unknown elsewhere on the eastern and southern shores of the Mediterranean, are, in some eyes, the most remarkable achievements.

Great strides have been made towards modifying the influence of Islam in the interests of modernization and economic development to an extent unknown elsewhere in the Arab World.

The slender natural resources, of which petroleum and phosphates are the most important, and the economy in general have been efficiently managed.

The international confidence these factors have built up have attracted perhaps the highest civil aid granted to any Third World country.

Economic and social successes have bred their own difficulties, however. By 1973 the United States and other western powers had largely diverted their aid to more needy nations. Since then oil-rich states of the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, have been persuaded to step into the breach, but there are drawbacks. Western aid could be used for any form of development, like much needed roads and service industries, but the new donors expect to see a clear return on investment.

Unemployment remains by far the most intractable problem. In a country of 5,600,000 people with an exceptionally young average age (45 per cent are under 14), those seeking work for the first time make up more than half the total unemployed, estimated at between 15 and 25 per cent. Sixty per cent of the remaining unemployed are under 25.

Under the present four-year plan, which ends this year, 119,000 jobs were planned. This figure is likely to be exceeded by some 30,000, but even so it is estimated that a growth rate of about 10 per cent is necessary, compared with the actual rate of 6.2 per cent, to stem the rate of unemployment.

About a third of the budget has been spent on education each year since independence—a policy which has resulted in a supply of technicians and managers which is the envy of other Third World nations. University entrance is automatic for all who pass their *baccalauréat*, but numbers have grown to a point where university authorities cannot cope, particularly as many entrants apply to join the Faculty of Letters. There is a strong undercurrent of discontent among young people — among school-leavers who worry whether they will reach university and among all groups who are faced with the struggle to find work.

These difficulties have recently been aggravated by a sharp rise in pass standards for the *baccalauréat* examinations to reduce the number of students and by the Government's announced intention to direct more students into technical courses more in line with national needs. A further grievance centres on elections to the students' union, which are held in the south. Most students are too far away to attend, and a feeling has grown up that only government stooges are elected.

Riots broke out on December 10 and demands were made for university reform. An office was wrecked in the Faculty of Letters in Tunis and President Bourguiba's portrait defaced. Five students received prison sentences of up to six years.

A further demonstration took place on January 14, the day of the appeal against the sentences. An unauthorized student march was stopped by the security police and 12 students later sentenced to prison terms of up to three years.

The number of agitators was small, although there were believed to be many sympathizers. Even so these attempts at dissent in a country in which freedom of expression is restricted to technical details is seen by informed observers as a glimpse of widespread frustration.

A generation has grown up to see President Bourguiba's rise to greatness among the leaders of the Third World as history. Although his occasional public appearances can still be impressive, he has been dogged for a number of years by ill health, which he uses as a pretext for reversing major decisions. He has been made both head of the party and President for life, but people are saying in private that he lives in the past and has lost his touch. In the present political climate any suggestion that he should step down is unthinkable.

Some compare the way he is tightening his grip to the last days of the Franco regime in Spain. In other ways there is already a post-Bourguiba spirit in the country. Ministers appear to enjoy a fair measure of autonomy, but risk the heavy penalties of falling out of favour if the President turns against their policies.

This happened in the case of Mr Mohamed Masmoudi, the former Foreign Minister, and Mr Ahmed Ben Salah, who held several portfolios. Both live in exile abroad and remain unknown, if potential, dangers to a smooth transfer of power. Despite precautions there are fears of political upheaval after Mr Bourguiba goes. Constitutionally the Prime Minister automatically assumes the presidency when it falls vacant. However, knowledgeable observers do not rate highly the prospects for Mr Hédi Nouira, the Prime Minister, who is seen as a talented bureaucrat with little political flair or ability to communicate with the public.

Admittedly no one can hope to hold the stage on the scale of President Bourguiba, although Mr Bahi Ladgham, his popular former deputy, now in retirement, is tipped as an outsider with a chance as an interim leader of the country. Among those in power named as likely contenders are Mr Ahmed Sayah, the party leader, Mr Tahar Belkhoja, the Minister of the Interior, and Mr Ahmed Bennou, Minister of Defence.

The power of the principal trade union, UGTT, has yet to be fully tested. Strikes have been common in the past two years and in December Mr Habib Achour, its president, accused the Government of plotting to oust him. So far UGTT has not attempted to flex political muscles, but its potential is not in question.

Apart from trade unionists and students no one has attempted to express opinions about social malaise since a group of liberals, now expelled from the party, complained to the press in September, 1974, about lack of democracy in the party. Their case was that Tunisia is politically mature enough to enjoy greater freedom of speech.

The Government's reaction has increasingly been to clamp down on any sign of dissent, however mild, and in so doing frustrating the aspirations they have themselves helped to foster through raising living standards. The social tensions this process builds up could ultimately unleash forces beyond government control when the time comes for personnel change. The danger is all the greater because of the fears of predatory designs by Libya and Algeria, of which this week's allegation of a Libyan plot to assassinate the President and Prime Minister is only the most recent example.



Women are employed as traffic police in Tunis and are the most emancipated in the Arab world.

Fast growth attracts foreign capital

by Godfrey Morison

Tunisia, among countries in the developing world, is unusual if not unique in that it has successfully turned away from full-blooded socialist economic policies towards economic liberalism and encouragement of the private sector without at the same time triggering off political unrest or social upheavals.

Much of the country's recent success in attracting foreign investment and technology is a result of the fact that the country has enjoyed comparative political tranquillity under its father-figure leader, President Habib Bourguiba, ever since independence from France. But it is also because of the calibre and determination of his lieutenants, notably the dull but highly competent Prime Minister, Hédi Nouira.

Not popular with the radicals or the student militants, who have been the source of most recent political opposition to the regime, this quiet, bespectacled administrator—whose experience ranges from political activism in the freedom struggle to representing his country in international banking negotiations—has successfully presided over a remarkable recovery in his country's economic fortunes.

In the late 1960s the economy was stagnant with serious dislocation and unrest in the rural areas caused by ill-planned dirigiste cooperative policies. Today, not only do the national economic indicators tell a different story—real growth rate in the 1970s has been running at an average of about 6 per cent annually compared to less than 5 per cent in the previous decade—but the wealth has been spread around as well; perhaps the most impressive aspect has been the pace which has now been achieved in creating new jobs.

Success in this is vital because of two factors: the country has opted since independence for very heavy investment in education and it has a very high population growth. Thus the potential is always present for the rapid growth of a pool of educated unemployed, a perfect recipe for political disaster.

So far success is by no means complete. It is estimated that approximately 50,000 additional people annually have entered the labour market in recent years and the Government planned to create 30,000 additional new jobs every year.

The big jump, which makes recent achievements—impressive as they are compared to so many other developing countries—seem inadequate, is not only because of the country's high birth rate but also the result of the high degree of emancipation among Tunisian women and their growing clamour for work. Job hunger has in the past been partially satisfied by emigration of Tunisian workers to Western Europe and Libya.

Tunisia is not rich in natural resources, certainly not when compared to the oil and gas wealth of its two immediate neighbours, Algeria and Libya. The country has oil but its production amounts to only 0.3 per cent of total production of the Arab producers and this has been more or less static over the past few years. Nevertheless, oil is the country's most important export earner; production for the first eight months of last year was worth just over D80m (£95m).

Other important export commodities are phosphates—at one time continued mining seemed to be in doubt but the high prices of the past two years have made this sector very profitable again. Also important are olive oil, wine, lead, iron ore and citrus fruit.

Tunisia's lack, compared to her neighbours, of huge natural resources may well in the long term turn out to have been good fortune; for it has forced the country to turn to other means of earning foreign exchange. A thriving tourist industry, which accounts for about 20 per cent of total foreign earnings, has been built up. The annual total of nights spent in hotels by tourists rose rapidly from 540,000 in 1963 to a peak of 6,777,000 in 1972. The next two years saw a marked decline to 5,800,000 and then 5,600,000.

Being so close to Europe, with an excellent climate and a friendly people, the long-term outlook for the tourism industry in Tunisia must be excellent.

Of even greater potential and importance for future export earnings is the industrial sector and it is here that the very high proportion of its meagre resources that the country has invested in education will probably prove to have been a very wise decision.

About half the 172,000 jobs created during the period of the 1973-76 four-year plan have been in industry. Increasingly the aim has been to encourage export-oriented industry rather than the old policy which was to go for import substitution. Tunisia's main export market is the EEC and the country's industrial products enjoy completely tariff-free access to this area. Tunisians argue that it will increasingly make sense for European concerns to set up factories in Tunisia, where labour costs are still quite low but the workforce comparatively well educated, in order to export back to Europe.

To this end was passed the so-called April, 1972, law which offers important concessions to companies establishing themselves solely in order to export. These include exemption from local Tunisian taxes and duty-free entry for equipment, spare parts, raw materials and so on.

The author is editor, Africa Confidential.

Phosphates and oil—twin export pillars

by Francis Ghilès

Phosphates on the one hand, oil and gas on the other, constitute two of the pillars of Tunisia's exports. Phosphates are a traditional earner and until last spring there was understandable euphoria about the enormous increase in price, one 400 per cent, in the preceding 18 months.

Earnings from phosphate rock exports had quadrupled by late 1974 to reach 346.84m (£94m) and earnings from phosphate products increased by 300 per cent to top $100m. This increase occurred as productivity rose, but much less fast than prices. Despite phosphate rock having been overtaken as the country's main export earner by 1973, in value terms, it remains essential to Tunisian foreign trade.

The collapse in the price of phosphate rock since last autumn must have constituted a rude awakening for the country. No figures for exports in 1975 are yet available but clearly large stocks must be held and there are few signs that the upturn in the world market is imminent.

Production of phosphate rock worldwide fell by 5 per cent last year according to British Sulphur Corporation estimates. According to official Tunisian figures, however, production has only decreased slightly to 3,850,000 tonnes in 1975 against 3,900,000 tonnes the year before and 3,400,000 tonnes in 1974. How much of these 3,850,000 tonnes were sold is impossible to assess with any accuracy.

The situation is all the more worrying for Tunisia because, as the boom continued in 1973-75, it became clear that the country's mines were very run down. To be fair it must be said that in the 1960s and early 1970s Tunisia did not have the means to reequip existing mines. Only D18m was invested in the 10 years to 1973 and when the boom came it was essential to produce as much as possible to take advantage of market conditions. In 1973 the mines were working below peak efficiency, partly because of the 1969 floods which caused extensive damage to the mines and railway lines to the coast. Tunisia's grade of rock (65 to 68 per cent tpl (tri-phosphate of lime) against Morocco's average (72 per cent) does not help either.

More money is being spent under the present plan, which finishes at the end of 1976, and the next five-year plan will devote D34m to the mining sector, D25m of which will go to the phosphates sector.

Equally important is the determination to process more rock into phosphoric acid. It has been suggested that if six million tonnes of rock could be treated, Tunisia could cover its present trade deficit. This may not be true with phosphate rock at its current price—on average down by 40 per cent compared to six months ago—but in the medium term the effort is worth making as observers do not doubt prices will pick up.

The expansion of the ICM (Industries Chimiques Maghrébines) complex in Gabès, which first began producing acid in 1972, is going well with quite a chunk of the investments coming in the form of loans from Kuwait and the Gulf. Two units are now in operation and plans being implemented will allow for the production of triple superphosphates. The production of hyperphosphates should also increase from present levels, about 10,000 tonnes a year, and so should that of compound fertilizers.

Tunisia's oil production is negligible in world terms, 0.3 per cent of total Opec output, which is roughly four million tonnes. The first field, brought into production in 1966, is at El Borma, in the south-west, close to the Algerian border.

In Tunisian terms the importance of the oil cannot be underestimated. Production covers all domestic needs and allows for exports of 3,700,000 tonnes, which in 1974 meant earnings worth $274m. This represents just over one third of all exports and when the price of crude quadrupled two years ago, Tunisia found it had the means to pay the heavier bills incurred for its imports of heavy machinery and raw materials. By 1980 the country hopes to be producing six million tonnes, a figure which could be substantially higher if offshore prospects are realized.

As with phosphates, the Tunisians would like eventually to be in a position to process more of the crude than they do today. The refinery built with Italian help in Bizerta more than 10 years ago is to have its capacity doubled and a new refinery should start up in Gabès in 1978.

Meanwhile drilling in the sea north-east of Gabès is yielding exciting finds, including gas. Development has already started on the Ashtart field where production began in 1974. The present annual production of oil is 2,500,000 tonnes with reserves put at 25 million tonnes. Gas is also there in quantity but so far 200 cu metres of it are burnt every year because it is not economic to bring it onshore.

To the east of this field, the Isis field should see production starting before the year is out and recent discoveries of gas off the Kerkennah Islands appear to be large although neither the companies nor the Tunisian authorities are prepared to quote a figure.

The country's reserves are put only at 150,000 million cu metres, a paltry figure when compared with Algeria's 2,000,000 million cu metres. But they are invaluable in that they save Tunisia valuable hard currency and allow it to proceed with plans to produce ammonia and compound fertilizers. Such plans are under way involving the West Germans, Japanese and Brazilians, not to mention loans from the Gulf, the perfect example of a four-way deal.

There are also plans for producing naphtha, ethylene, propylene and other by-products in the complex at Gabès. This should provide a solid basis for a synthetic fibres operation, a logical development in a country where skill in textiles is traditional and encouraged by foreign investment today. Two or three years ago, these supplies of gas were thought of as ancillary to what would be coming from Algeria by way of a pipeline which runs through Tunisia to Italy. Such is no longer the case. Perhaps Tunisia will be lucky. The country certainly deserves to be, squeezed as it is between two major energy producers.

Aquitaine Tunisie has just struck oil in the Didon No 1 hole, 80km offshore in the Gulf of Gabès. Oil reportedly flowed at nearly 3,000 barrels a day on test from 2,740 metres.

The author is financial editor, City Press, and a frequent writer and broadcaster on North African affairs.

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Tunis

Head office at 6 Avenue Habib Thameur, Tunis

Tel. 246.920

The monthly publication of the Tunisian National Farmers' Union, "TOUNES AL KHADRA", issued on the first day of each month, has the following objectives:

to provide information to those working on the land, popularize new farming techniques, enlighten the Tunisian rural world on modern farming methods, promote Tunisian farming products and familiarize farmers in Tunisia—and in the Arab world with new technology and equipment.

Attracting investment despite lack of resources

ith the phase of import bstitution now well over, misia's planners have en concentrating for the st few years on building the country's export inustries. The task has not en an easy one because e country is short of pital and, unlike a mber of its Third World rners, has not yet found vast store of mineral or ricultural wealth to offer security to borrow heavon world markets.

Thus Tunisia has never me to the Eurocurrency rket for a loan, although ught well do so in the too distant future. geria can mortgage its s; Tunisia has neither ough oil or gas to mortge.

Foreign capital has been racted to Tunisia in the st three years by other ans. Four years ago the -called April 1972 law was acted which offers comnies setting up in the untry exclusively for port fairly generous fiscal centives from income and her taxes, free entry of uipment and spare parts well as any raw materials quired.

These concessions are anted on a 20-year basis t exemption from tax on ofits runs for only 10 ars after which a reduced x rate is applied. Earnings from profits which might be generated outside Tunisia are exempt.

The law has proved successful in attracting foreign investment although it was bad luck that it became known just as the worldwide slump in investment was beginning to gather momentum. The Tunisians have also made a big effort of their own to increase investment in the industrial sector. In the current four-year plan these have increased by 75 per cent compared with the last plan.

More than half the investments in the current plan are going to develop the services required to support the new industries whether in the manufacturing or energy sectors.

Many foreign companies have been involved in the drilling for oil and gas over the years but it is in manufacturing industry that the Tunisians have scored some notable successes in the past three years as a result of the incentive schemes included in the 1972 law.

The achievements have often been unspectacular but none the less solid.

The concern of the authorities is to mop up unemployment and ensure a minimum technical training which might later be used in other industries. While working conditions leave much to be desired, not least where equal pay for women is concerned, no one can claim that conditions generally are worse than in many Third World countries.

The Government has chosen to encourage the private sector in the current plan as the percentage of investments coming from this sector shows. It has increased from 37 per cent to 41 per cent of the total since the last four-year plan. Furthermore, after the initial success of the 1972 law, another law was passed in 1974 offering various concessions to companies wishing to set up shop in Tunisia and provide specifically for the Tunisian market.

Location and the number of jobs created are of paramount importance especially as the market is already saturated in the case of many products.

The existence of a large pool of cheap and well educated labour has proved attractive to many foreign companies, as has Tunisia's position at the crossroads of Africa, the Middle East and southern Europe, and its political stability.

Since 1973 investment has come under the control of one body set up for this task, the Agence de Promotion des Investissements (API). It remains to this day the sole channel of communication between foreign investors and the Tunisian authorities. Despite its work bottlenecks still exist, as do practices such as one recently encountered by a German firm wishing to set up a jam factory only to discover that the price which it would have been forced to pay for the sugar it needed would not have allowed it to make a profit.

But overall API can claim a fair measure of success and be held responsible for the doubling of private investment during the current plan.

The minimum rate for an unskilled labourer in the textile sector is 13p an hour rising after the first two years to a maximum of 20p. These are low wages. Although there has been no trouble in this sector so far—being mostly staffed by women is a guarantee of peace and tranquillity in this respect—there are signs of unrest in other sectors where the workers are more aware of their bargaining power.

While textiles have absorbed the bulk of investments from abroad small mechanical industries and light electronics are making some headway. It is too early to tell how successful this policy of attracting foreign investment has been.

F.G.

Careful aid used to restore confidence



Mule-trading in the market of Nabeul.

Since independence two major political events have had profound effects on land development. The first was the nationalization of all agricultural land in foreign ownership in 1964 and the second was the attempt to collectivize all agricultural land from 1967.

It was the second event which had the greater immediate impact. A World Bank loan had been secured to organize production co-operatives in a specific area. The funds were applied instead to an area many times *the intended size at a speed* that the conservative agricultural workers were unable to accept.

Insufficient thought was given to providing instruction or the right management to put the system into operation. Workers were paid 200 millimes a day no matter how much work they did, and with such a paltry income it is no surprise that results were disastrous.

Production in 1969 fell dramatically by 19 per cent. More surprising is the fact that the system lasted three years until a World Bank investigation discovered that production figures had been faked. Mr Ahmed Ben Salah, the minister who had tried to bulldoze the operation, was disgraced, tried and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, although he escaped and is now living in exile.

The official version of the story omitted to add that large, wealthy and influential owners objected to the threat of collectivization and it was at this point that the scheme failed. In any event the experience retarded development and required careful government aid measures in the form of cheap seed and fertilizers to restore the confidence of the peasants.

Much of the main agricultural region, which is in the north, is divided into small plots, threequarters of which are less than 25 acres each *and occupy* only 14.2 per cent of the land area. At the other end of the scale less than 3 per cent of the farms cover more than 50 per cent of the land area. These large farms are a legacy of the French *colon* development.

Sixty per cent work in the agricultural sector, and contribution to the gdp will have fallen intentionally from 24 per cent in 1972 to less than 20 per cent this year. The pattern is a familiar one in Third World countries. Administration is divided between state and private ownership and a system of cooperatives, mainly in the central areas, much smaller in number and more viable than in the Ben Salah era. State investment commands 13.5 per cent of the irrigation ... the key to agricultural development, for Tunisia is subject to violent fluctuations in rainfall patterns. Long periods of drought are offset by occasionally disastrous floods. A long and expensive study of underground water resources and rainfall patterns has been going on since independence.

A few millimetres of rain more or less than expected can upset careful planning even today. Emphasis is on making use of all possible supplies, particularly the storm water which has previously been wasted to a large extent. Tunisia has eight reservoirs and a further nine are in the pipeline for use by 1980. Plans for the northern region, by far the most fertile, are simplified by the presence of the country's only river, the Medjerda, by Lake Ichkeul and by underground reserves at Cap Bon.

The north was the traditional granary of ancient Rome and cereals are still by far the most important crop. New, high-yielding varieties have been developed, partly in conjunction with the American aid programme and consequently there are hopes of a 50 per cent rise in production.

Tunisia is the world's largest producer of olive oil, the olives being grown principally along the east coast. Marketing problems arose in 1974, when world prices for other edible oils fell, and expectations were dashed last year when olive oil prices slumped as a result of good harvests and a drop in consumption.

Although Italy has been the main trading partner in olive oil, the EEC countries, which themselves produce a better quality olive oil, are taking much less from Tunisia, and a search for new markets is going on in Libya, the Arab states of the Gulf States and Latin America.

Market gardening is the only sector to show a steady rise in production and income. The Government is encouraging diversification into new produce, such as apricots, which require little water for cultivation. Great hopes are pinned on fruit growing, such as citrus produce in the Cap Bon area.

Stock farming, mainly confined to the centre of the country, is the most modernized sector and production has more than doubled since 1970.

At one and a half dinars to two dinars a day, agricultural incomes do not offer bright prospects. To reduce the drain on manpower, the Government is aiming to improve living standards in the country by bringing in better supplies of electricity and drinking water. A more developed administrative structure for agronomists is also planned.

New emphasis is being placed on less developed areas, particularly the south. An institute for arid zones is scheduled to begin work this year. It will examine possibilities in the oases, which at present grow dates and primary produce, and will investigate soil erosion and continue the battle against the Sahara, now, as a result of careful tree planting and other measures, no longer advancing in Tunisia. A belt of new oases is planned, linking Nefta with the Libyan frontier.

The Government and the agricultural trade union are determined to achieve self-sufficiency in basic produce by 1980. Emphasis is on cereals, animal produce and fishing, a much-underdeveloped cottage industry. Some economists are highly sceptical of the chances of success.

Official spokesmen, on the other hand, point out that very low productivity levels are likely to be raised to only a third of those in Europe, then the targets would be achieved.

G.W.

Plans to offer more than just sun and sea

fter three years of falling urist figures, 1975 has roved to be a record year r the industry, with the rench a long way ahead of ermans and British visitors. inal figures are not yet vailable, but the million ark was reached for the rst time by the end of ovember and tourism was irrency.

For too long the Tunisians ave relied solely on the gredients of sun and sea, 2 per cent of their visitors eing primarily interested in is kind of holiday. Hotel ccupancy rates averaged roughout the year have eached 56 per cent, which ffectively means full hotels the summer. New targets e therefore to increase ccupation in the winter and embark on new projects connected with the old urist formula.

The four main tourist areas up to now have been Hammamet/Nabeul, Sousse/Monastir, Djerba/Zarzis and to a less extent Tunis. One of the first complaints has been lack of amusements. Planners are now looking at more diversification and more complex approaches. Golf, horse-riding, casinos and thermal centres are among popular activities. hotels have ten been that *isolated developments* be side urban areas, thus leaving visitors at a loose end when they go out for a walk. It has meant that villas and flats for renting have been almost non-existent.

More comprehensive developments are under way. The massive Dar Djerba four-hotel complex on the island of Djerba is coming up for its third season. It is imaginatively done and great care has been taken to retain a human scale. This small tourist town for 2,500 has paved the way for an enormous development north of Sousse to be known as El Kantaoui City, intended for a more prosperous, if not opulent, market. Eleven hotels, 13,000 beds, 1,000 tourist flats, 320 villas—such are the publicity figures. In Tunisian terms the most important is that there will be 6,000 new jobs.

The scene is already set for the new approach to tourism envisaged in the fifth Plan beginning at the end of this year. It is already becoming an integrated part of socio-economic development.

New plans, however, are turning more attention to the least developed areas, namely the south, impoverished by the creeping Sahara. The promised airport at Tozeur will bring the oases to a wider public. The lure of such remote places has so far appealed to a small minority —travellers in private cars and the young, mini-trek type of tourist. Hotels are mainly in Gafsa, Nefta, Tozeur and Gabès, which is on the sea, is a key starting point to more promising area—the Berber villages of the deep south. In view of their forthcoming importance, I explored them on a recent visit. Half an hour's drive to the south-west of Gabès transfers you from a flat dull countryside dotted with shrubs to the lunar landscape of the Matmata mountains and the village of Matmata itself.

Here you will find the first of the cave-dwellers. Each family dug a large pit with an entrance reached by a gently sloping path. The pit forms a courtyard surrounded by rooms on two levels cut into the walls. The upper storey can be reached by a very narrow crooked stairway or by a rope.

Tourism has a toehold, for a few of the pits have been joined by tunnels to form two bizarre hotels. The new prosperity has spawned a little community of whitewalled houses, so that the original purpose of this type of dwelling tends to be lost. But pick up a guide in Matmata and travel south on rough dirt and rocky roads as far as Téchine.

Here 1,000 people live almost invisibly in some 300 pits. The defensive purpose of this type of dwelling becomes immediately obvious. Curious skeleton shelves and furniture are made from trellises of twigs covered in plaster, large jars hold provisions and the centre of the pit is dished to act as a form of drainage. My guide led me through one of the larger doors, and when my eyes were accustomed to the dim light I could make out a camel operating an olive press carved out of stone many generations ago.

Certainly most of these dwellings are very old, the inside walls hardened almost like stone and whitewashed, the roughly hewn doors heavily weathered. The cave-dwellers had been driven from the more vulnerable mountainside long ago by

Many of the mountain dwellings remain, huddling in tiers and appearing to grow out of the ground. Steep, narrow paths wind between the houses to a look-out point. A typical example is Temezret, 10 bone-shaking, second-gear kilometres west of Matmata. The village was almost deserted when I arrived because during daylight hours everyone is doing his best to scrape a living from the soil. Looking down from the top of the highest house I could see every roof below covered in drying olives like piles of giant caviar.

Some of the villages have the word *ksar* in their names. *Ksars* were rectangular courtyards lined with *ghorfas*, cells in two layers for storing grain or for refuge in times of danger. One that is easy to visit is at Metameur, a village close to the main road between Gabès and Médenine. A tiny shop in a tiny square forms the centre of life and a path winds up to the *ksar*, now deserted but for a custodian, although a bar opens during the summer months.

Farther south is Ghoumrassen, a large community between high cliffs. Clearly the early dwellings were dug high up the slopes and *ghorfas* built on to them outside. Modern, more prosperous dwellings have now filled out the flat areas below.

It is worth going on from here to Ksar Haddada, where 26 out of 500 *ghorfas* have been skilfully converted into an inn. Certainly a night spent in these bizarre architectural surroundings would be unforgettable.

Rural exodus and creeping tourism are causing this way of life to vanish. There are still many Berber villages to explore, but for British travellers this must be one of the nearest surviving places where it is still just possible to visit a people living in a wild country little touched by modern civilization.

G.W.

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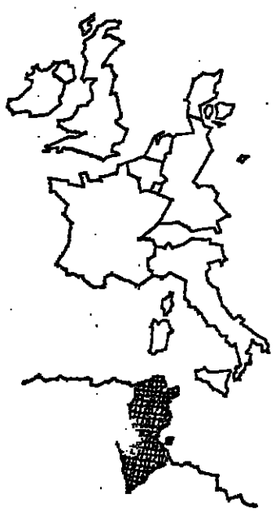
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George Hutchinson

What will the Budget tell us about Mr Healey?

Mr Callaghan now seems secure. Notwithstanding the massive vote accorded to Mr Foot, it is Mr Callaghan who appears to be destined for 10 Downing Street, thereby fulfilling Mr Wilson's personal hopes and no doubt his private calculations.

To my mind, one of the most interesting aspects of the proceedings thus far is Mr Healey's showing. He has acquired a mere 30 votes. A poor response. Is it due, I wonder, to a lingering mistrust of his true character or motives? Like lesser mortals, a good many Labour MPs are not sure quite what to make of him. There is still an ambiguity about him.

Leaving aside the leadership contest, we shall soon see from his Budget whether Mr Healey has become the more impartial "national" figure lately portrayed by his admirers or whether he remains immovably committed to antiquated and divisive party prejudice. If he has discharged his proper duty as Chancellor he will have determined a set of fiscal policies to suit a social and economic programme designed to reinvigorate the country by rebuilding our industrial base.

> We shall soon see from his Budget whether the Chancellor has become the more impartial 'national' figure lately portrayed by his admirers

Among other things, that involves taking the axe to those parts of the tax system which simply proclaim the Government's hostility towards the creation and possession of wealth. If he can perceive and carry out his national responsibilities, he will remove what has been called the psychological burden to individual enterprise, for one thing by altering, if not abolishing, the capital transfer tax, which is especially damaging to smaller businesses, including farms, and strikes directly at their employees as well as their owners.

To which I might add that the "unquoted sector": the smaller businesses (not excluding farming and forestry), account for more than half of private employment. Moreover, they are generally accounted efficient and profitable. On a point of broader application, who can doubt that income tax should be lowered, if only by increasing the personal allowances?

Mr Healey has failed in his immediate claim to the Labour leadership. By his Budget we shall be better able to judge his fitness for the office when in the fullness of time it is once again vacant.

□Prompted by the squalor that becomes more apparent every day, I return to a disgrace already ventilated in these columns: the condition of our streets. With few exceptions, they have seldom been dirtier. This is not due mainly to municipal economies in the cleaning services. It is due above all to private, that is to say public, sluttishness. We are turning into a nation of litter louts.

Apart from the discarded wrappings, containers and remnants of food now polluting the pavements, not to mention the buses and tube trains, a new and even more disgusting habit is gaining ground in London. Instead of using dustbins, more and more people are dumping their household rubbish at the kerb in flimsy sodden paper bags, waiting for it to be collected by the road sweeper. There could be nothing more unsightly or less hygienic.

Meanwhile, we see notices everywhere threatening a fine of £20 if a dog is found fouling the pavement. It is not our dogs that we should worry about, but our fellow humans. The answer, I suggest, must lie in the imposition of severe penalties for those who value their country so little that they are ready to reduce it to a slum by their own revolting behaviour.

□The Selsdon Group, commonly derided by the so-called left of the Tory Party, is often a source of good sense. It has just published a short paper on party organization by two MPs, Richard Body and Tony Durant. There are many who will agree with what they have to say.

Among other things, they regret and deplore what they rightly consider the undue centralization of the recent past and acknowledge the liberating influence and effect of Mrs Thatcher's direction—for example in the freer choice of parliamentary candidates. Again, they are properly sceptical of what "the advertising industry" (as they call it) has contributed to Conservative fortunes.

"It will be some time", they write, "before the damage of recent years is removed. The impression lingers of a party which could not tolerate different views from the party line . . . We have to work hard to reassure people that the party is one . . . [illegible] of all shades of libertarian opinion opposed to socialism". In this, I think, they come close to the centre of the debate.

On one practical aspect of party organization they are quite definite: they would do away with the 11 area offices in England and Wales, which are costing more than £400,000 a year, or a fifth of the Tories' total expenditure.

As chairman of the party, Lord Thorneycroft would do well to listen to what these members of the Selsdon Group have to say. He might learn a thing or two from them, if only on party finances.

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Should our Olympic hopes rest on the widow's mite?

Last Sunday a group of rotund, rubicund publicans jogged round and round the Crystal Palace national sports centre's track in some agonizing sponsored runs which raised close to £7,000 for the British Olympic Association's appeal fund. A noble effort for which they richly deserved the tankards into which they sunk their noses afterwards.

It is unlikely that mine host from Camberwell or Enfield appreciated, as he nursed his aching calves and listened to his pounding heart, that there are at least another 20 different Olympic fund raising projects underway in this country at the moment. The important words are "at least" because it seems to me that every week someone, altruistically or otherwise, jumps on the Olympic bandwagon.

While schoolchildren, students and old age pensioners part with copper and silver to help the drive for gold medals, a host of marketing specialists are doing their best to bring an Olympic shine to the selling of soft drinks, toiletries, alcohol, breakfast and frozen foods, insurance, "pop" records, pharmaceutical products and mortgages. Last week a bookmaker launched his first list of Olympic starting prices in case you want to have a bet on Brendan Foster or Alan Pascoe.

The growing amount of sponsorship raises several questions in my mind. Are some of our amateur Olympic sports getting lazy because of such a rich diet of sponsorship? Are they in danger of losing their independence, whether through commercial interference or too much dependence upon government grants? Is there going to be a massive public reaction, after the Montreal Games, if Britain, as is quite possible, does not win half a dozen gold medals? Should not the sporting governing bodies aim for sponsorship with a built-in clause against inflation, over four years rather than lap up a one-off lump sum in Olympic year?

The Government gives financial aid to sports through the Sports Council and it is worth pointing out that most of the governing bodies I spoke to last week were full of praise, and sympathy, for the way the Sports Council's director, Mr Walter Winterbottom, and his staff, carry out their task. For most sports the most expensive area is competition overseas even though they get travel grants of 75 per cent from the Government. But there are other problems.

Gymnastics is booming thanks partly to the stimulus of the television presentation, particularly at the last Olympics, of the Russian Olga Korbut. The awards scheme run by the *Sunday Times* has been a vast success. Gymnastics is a "telegenic" sport with a contract with the BBC. The main problem for gymnastics, says its secretary, Lt-Commander Middleton, is to contain the boom. But he adds: "We are rather sorry for some of the smaller sports with their financial problems while we are fairly confident we can maintain our present level." Modern pentathlon is a classic example. There are about 700 competitors in Britain, says Mrs Dew, who runs "headquarters" by herself, "and we still couldn't afford a national coach even with the normal 75 per cent grant from the Government. We've just lost one sponsor after five years, they just had to withdraw because of the economic climate, and £4,000 from Fabergé will all be swallowed up through the cost of staging just one competition at Crystal Palace next month."

Sportsview

GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO OLYMPIC SPORTS

	1968-72	1972-76
	£	£
Archery	13,285	23,434
Association Football	22,608	25,250
Athletics	155,373	282,284
Boxing	26,385	62,324
Canoeing	54,343	119,676
Cycling	28,682	55,173
Fencing	51,633	102,800
Gymnastics	29,392	128,738
Handball	1,392	12,512
Hockey	28,091	79,916
Judo	20,837	67,975
Modern Pentathlon	7,994	34,580
Rowing	37,871	117,405
Sailing*	46,809	227,100
Shooting	44,977	157,994
Swimming	23,574	99,713
Volleyball	69,461	170,498
Weightlifting	9,823	43,340
Wrestling	25,656	85,639
	11,913	30,029
Total	710,175	1,928,380

* Includes non-Olympic classes

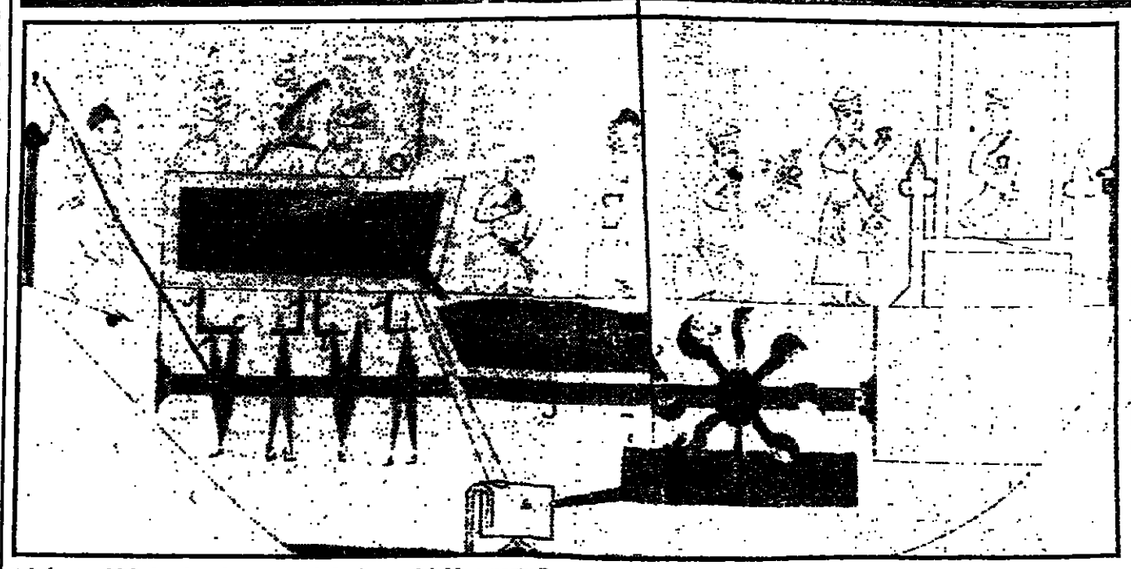
Fencing's Commander Booth says: "Without the Sports Council's grant the organization would die except for local fencing. We send teams all over Europe for competitive experience—matches, training and travel cost £21,500 last year. I do the decorating myself at headquarters and I'm also the housekeeper. Your income depends a great deal on whether or not you're telegenic. It can limit the amount of sponsorship—we don't get much apart from Martini and a little from Wilkinson Sword. We're trying to promote fencing as a normal activity in schools, it's better than breaking windows, anyway. I expect we'll get another 250 inquiries very soon because they had a fencing item on Blue Peter this week. Already there must be between 18,000 and 22,000 fencers in the country."

Amateur boxing is looking hard for a sponsor right now for their televised, undeniably attractive June match at Wembley between Britain and the United States. Mr Cox, their honorary secretary, points out: "We made a profit of £4,519 from the ABA championships last year, but that's all swallowed up by expenses. We've got one national coach and seven regional coaches for 15,000 registered boxers and a great medical registration scheme. Thank goodness we've got some dedicated people in amateur boxing including our small office staff." Rowing, says the new secretary, Mr Lunn-Rockcliffe, will be taking a close internal look at the financial structure in a fortnight's time. He regards as "pathetic" the way women rowers have to raise money for their sport in school raffles and "get Marks and Spencers to provide their socks. When they go up to Holme Pierrepoint for the national championships they all camp out in tents because they can't afford normal board and lodging. An 'eight' can cost a club £1,500, plus £400 for 10 oars, and you can imagine the cost of transport from Mortlake up to Nottingham."

At the Sports Council, Mr Winterbottom makes sure that he is aware of this kind of background as he and his colleagues consider grant applications to cover administration, coaching, team preparation and training and the cost of international overseas events.

The Government's grants are made carefully. Amateur sports could not live without some commercial sponsorship. But I find that many administrators and competitors I have talked with this year have come to my conclusion that the time has come for a hard look at the ways in which money is provided for sport. As the Minister for Sport, Mr Denis Howell, has suggested, the future may lie with a national lottery and not the present patchwork quilt.

Neil Allen



"A boat which is placed on a pool during a drinking party".

Medieval technology, bizarre and beautiful

The work of a little-known pioneer of automation is likely to surprise and delight visitors to the Islamic exhibition at London's Science Museum next [illegible]. He applied his technology to objects bizarre, beautiful and occasionally useful and who, at the beginning of the thirteenth century, went on to catalogue and describe them in detail for posterity.

For English-speaking posterity, this craftsman-inventor's work was fully revealed only recently, when a dedicated *spare-time scholar* translated the inventor's own story from Arabic into English and added his own technical commentary.

The medieval innovator was Ibn al-Razzaz al-Jazari, who worked for many years as a senior craftsman for the Artuqid princes of Diyar Bakr, a region of what is now south-east Turkey.

His translator is Dr Donald R. Hill, of Great Bookham, Surrey, a chartered engineer who gained an M.Litt and a Ph.D in Arabic history in his spare time, and who now works as chief planning engineer for an international petrochemicals company.

Al-Jazari was not a prolific inventor, but a skilled developer of other people's ideas. He devised complicated mechanical machines, got them to work, and methodically described them in his classic *Book of knowledge of ingenious mechanical devices.*

Ingenious they certainly were. Some of his water-powered clocks, for example, used carefully calibrated perforated floats as the basis of their timing mechanism. A fine hole in the float would be adjusted [illegible] water and sink after exactly half an hour.

This in turn would activate levers, wheels, pulleys, valves, balls and complicated plumbing which would cause model figures to move, instruments to play, doors to open, birds to whistle and drop balls from their beaks on to cymbals.

He gives credit to earlier sources where credit it due, but comments bluntly on bad design. "I came upon a [candle] clock made by Yunus al-Asturlabi", he reports. "I discovered that the wax flowed into the interior of the sheath and over the instruments inside the sheath. Truly, the construction . . . did not work at all . . . the design was useless."

From the number and nature of al-Jazari's "vessels and figures suitable for drinking sessions", the Artuqid princes appear to have been hospitable gentlemen who liked to liven up their parties from time to time.

At the simplest, this could mean a rather elaborate toy boat floating on a pool and carrying sailors who rowed, musicians who played, and other figures.

They also went in for special goblets which "arbitrated" at parties, in the sense that they selected who was next to drink. A duck might be mounted atop the goblet, for instance: it would rotate and then stop, facing the chosen person.

Not only that, but if the chosen person did not drain the goblet the duck would whistle loudly—"so that everyone in [illegible] will know and [illegible] a secret. Put him on your knee, drink, and give him wine to drink".

"The king had a rather special assistant in the shape of a model slave girl in a cupboard. "This cupboard", al-Jazari explains, "is by the king's side during carousals".

The slave girl holds a goblet in her right hand, a towel in her left, and her right elbow is hooked to the back wall of the cupboard. She is standing on rollers on a floor which slopes down to the cupboard doors, which are closed.

Above her is a reservoir of wine, which fills the goblet at intervals. As the weight of the goblet increases, her arm moves down, unhooking the catch. She rolls forward, pushing the doors open with her left hand, and presenting the goblet of wine to the king. After draining the goblet, the king replaces it, uses and replaces the towel, pushes the slave girl back on to the carch and closes the doors.

"This happens about every one-eighth of an hour until the company breaks up" al-Jazari notes.

Sometimes, it seems, the breaking-up was accelerated by the use of "a boon-companion, who drinks the king's leavings". This in essence was a kneeling figure holding a goblet in one hand and a water-lily in the other.

The fun begins when the water-lily reaches a certain position. "Then", al-Jazari explains, "the head of the carousal says to someone he wishes to make fun of, and who does not know the purpose of the boon-companion, 'Sound [illegible] boon-companion, who [illegible] and takes a secret. Put him on your knee, drink, and give him wine to drink'.

"So he takes him without argument, puts him on his knee, drinks and gives him drinks. He does not finish two or three goblets before the boon-companion pours on to him all he has drunk since the beginning of the carousal, wetting his clothing. "The wine flows beneath him, making him a target for laughter. . . ."

As students of al-Jazari will realize, the secret of the incontinent boon-companion is an internal siphon.

Even when making party-time fun objects, al-Jazari continues to take his technology seriously. "Whoever wishes to construct this", he says of a particularly complex multi-storey drinking arbiter, "should not fit the baseplate to the castle before the mechanisms are complete, and until they have been tested for several days, with several tests each day. Then it is fixed, but not soldered. I made it and soldered its baseplate securely. Then after 30 years something went wrong inside, and I had great difficulty in repairing it".

Thirty years, indeed. There's engineering.

Kenneth Owen

The book of knowledge of ingenious mechanical devices, by Ibn al-Razzaz al-Jazari, translated and annotated by Donald R. Hill. Published by D. Reidel, Dordrecht, Netherlands

Greece cracks down on rogue hoteliers

Athens

The Greeks expect 1976 to be a vintage year for tourism, so they are determined to protect their country's fine reputation for hospitality, which [illegible] damaged by unscrupulous hoteliers. As a first step, the National Tourist Organization has introduced a code of behaviour to govern relations between hotels and their clients.

A sensational innovation in the new code is that a Greek hotelier who fails to honour a reservation or replace it adequately, must pay the wronged client an indemnity equal to the sum agreed for the duration of the stay.

Mr Tzannis Tzannetakis, secretary general of the Tourist Board, said: "This year will make or break Greek tourism. If we cannot win the battle of equality, we might as well accept that tourism will remain at low levels for the next five years."

In 1975, about 3,173,000 foreign tourists spent holidays in Greece—a 45 per cent increase over 1974, a lean year for tourism because of the Cyprus upheaval and the threat of Greek-Turkish war. A further increase of 50 per cent in the first two months of 1976 showed that the official target of 4,000,000 visitors for the year will be easy to reach.

The unsettled political situation and labour unrest in Portugal, Spain and Italy may divert a good proportion of the tourist traffic this year towards Greece where, following the restoration of democracy some 20 months ago, a remarkable degree of stability has been accomplished.

The cost of living here has increased at rates that are low by European standards—15 per cent in 1975—and the local currency costs to sterling tourists less than it did last summer, in spite of the devaluation of the pound.

There are enough hotel rooms in the country to cope with the coming tide: at the beginning of this year 185,275 hotel beds in all classes were available, and 63 new hotels, with a capacity of 19,863 beds, are to open during the year.

The stage, therefore, is set. The increased demand will inevitably put a strain on fair practices in the tourist trade, and this is precisely what the Tourist Board hopes to prevent. After all, tourism is one of the principal sources of foreign exchange for Greece. In 1975 tourist revenue soared to £310m. It is expected to approach £500m this year.

Mr Tzannetakis said: "The vast majority of Greece's 2,500 hoteliers are sound and honest businessmen whose [illegible] cannot be [illegible]. There are a few who do not come up to our standards. They will have to comply or close shop."

Under the new code of behaviour, hotels with vacancies may no longer turn away a client unless "manifestly ill, intoxicated, or dirty". Hotels must pay full damages for flouting a reservation provided the client cannot be accommodated in another hotel of the same class with precisely the same amenities.

Hotel overbooking, the plague of Greek tourism, will be curbed. Hoteliers try to protect themselves from a tourist slump by accepting low-rate early bookings, then later try to disengage themselves after accepting orders at regular prices.

Mr Tzannetakis said he considered 10 to 20 per cent overbooking as a reasonable hedge against last-minute cancellations. But there was evidence that hotels in Crete this year had already been overbooked by 50 per cent, and those in Rhodes by 60 to 70 per cent.

This would no longer be tolerated. Under the code, all hotels would submit their lists of reservations and rates agreed to the Tourist Board. Penalties in case of excesses would include the revocation of the licence of the hotel manager, who is made *by the code fully responsible* in this field, and the downgrading of the hotel for one year.

The code safeguards hotels by making the reservations binding only if an advance up to 25 per cent of the agreed cost of the stay (or at least one night's rate) is paid. Client may cancel arrangements 20 days ahead of the date, or else they must [illegible] one-half of the cost, except, of course, in case of *force majeure*.

Another safeguard for hoteliers is that under the code "the client must behave politely to the staff and refer all complaints to the manager. Otherwise a client may be considered undesirable."

Too many good holidays can be marred by disagreeable squabbles in overbooked and understaffed hotels. The Greek Tourist Board seems to hope that the code of behaviour can eradicate this unpleasantness and improve hotel services in Greece.

Mary Modiano

From Ramsay MacDonald to Mr Heath, the battles for a new leader

We are never short of precedents. There have been 14 occasions during the present century when one of the two major parties has chosen its leader. On several such occasions they have had no real choice. Following the resignation of a Prime Minister the Sovereign, acting on distinguished advice, chooses the successor. The outstanding example was Sir Winston Churchill. After he had succeeded Chamberlain in 1940 the Tory Party bowed to necessity. They elected as their leader the man they had rejected for nine years and whom if they could, they would have defeated in his constituency. But there have been five times when a party has been free to choose. In each instance there has been a result which could hardly have been expected a few weeks or even a few days before.

Balfour resigned the Tory leadership in 1911. The Tories were divided between two claimants. One was Walter Long, the prototype of Conservative respectability. The other was Austen Chamberlain, who had the immense advantage of being the son of Joseph. But there was a mutual antipathy. Neither, it seemed, was ready to serve under the other. The dilemma was resolved by the wholly unexpected choice of Bonar Law. It seemed strangely inappropriate. His biographer in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* sums it up:

"a sombre, middle class, teetotal Scots Canadian businessman then became leader of the party of Old England".

But Lloyd George when he heard the result declared: "The fools have chosen their best man by accident." (I could not help recalling this remark when the Liberal members recently decided not to dispense with Jeremy Thorpe—"the fools have retained their best man by accident".) Bonar Law went on to become the closest associate in the Government of Lloyd George. Baldwin described their partnership as "the most perfect in political history". But in 1922, at the Carlton Club meeting, Bonar Law overthrew the coalition and ushered in the reign of mediocrity.

In 1922 Ramsay MacDonald was elected by the Parliamentary Labour Party to be their leader. It seemed an astonishing reversal. During the war he was one of the most unpopular men in the country. He had lost his seat in 1918 and failed to return in a much publicized by-election. He wrote to C. F. G. Masterman "I know that my political career came to an end at Woolwich". But in 1922 he returned to the House. His opponent for the leadership was J. M. Clynes, who was the embodiment of party orthodoxy. MacDonald's election was proposed by Emanuel Shinwell and supported by the left wingers from the Clyde. It is one of the strangest ironies in our political history. Nevertheless the decision must have paid a handsome electoral dividend.

Ramsay MacDonald is now remembered because he formed the National Government in 1931 ("The First Lord of the Treachery") and because of his long, pathetic years of decline. What is generally forgotten is his ascendancy during the twenties. He was a magnificent, commanding figure on the platform. He had a superb voice, coupled with the asset of a Scots accent. W. J. Brown has described "a certain poetic quality in his speech and the suggestion of vast depths yet undisclosed". His devotees described him as the greatest public orator since Gladstone. If he had not been chosen, Labour might not have become the largest Parliamentary Party in 1929. And there might never have been a National Government during the thirties.

Attlee was the undisputed leader from 1934, when he succeeded Lansbury, until his retirement in 1956. Then occurred one of the strangest decisions in recent political history. Herbert Morrison was the doyen of Labour leaders. He had achieved an immense personal success when Labour achieved a lasting majority on the LCC. He had displayed remarkable courage when as Home Secretary in 1944 in the teeth of left-wing outcry, he had insisted upon the release from detention of Sir Oswald Mosley. His claim to the leadership had seemed almost overwhelming. But he had been less impressive as foreign secretary and he was 67 years of age.

A second candidate was Aneurin Bevan. He was the most colourful figure in the Labour movement since Keir Hardie. He was one of the few leaders of the Labour Party with (if this be an advantage) a working class origin. He was the most brilliant parliamentary orator since Lloyd George. But he had committed what, in the Labour movement of those days, was a cardinal sin. He had defied the party machine.

And so the choice fell on Hugh Gaitskell. It seemed a remarkable decision. He had been educated at Winchester and New College. As an undergraduate at Oxford he took no part in politics. When other aspiring politicians competed for the Presidency of the Union he never even took part in Union debates. His socialist leanings did not become apparent until after he had left Oxford. But his political sponsor was Hugh Dalton. In 1940 Dalton appointed Gaitskell as his personal secretary at the Ministry of Economic Warfare. Two years later they left together for the Board of Trade. Dalton was a very remarkable character. He had pronounced faults of temperament. But perhaps his most admirable quality was the interest (in no way homosexual), which he took in the young men around him. Throughout the years he did everything in his power to promote Gaitskell's career. Gaitskell became Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1950. He showed himself fully able to sustain the burden. When the leadership election came, he had the advantage of being the youngest of the three Labour candidates. The result was Gaitskell 157; Bevan 70; Morrison 40.

Next came the contest in 1960 between Harold Wilson and George Brown with Jim Callaghan as the third candidate. Mr Wilson was preferred to Mr Brown and Mr Callaghan, although Mr Brown had the support of almost the entire front bench. Since then there have been four selections. Mr Heath defeated Mr Maudling and Mrs Thatcher defeated Mr Heath. But the most remarkable contest was undoubtedly in 1953, when Mr Macmillan decided to retire. There were several possible candidates. They proceeded to the Blackpool Conference. The outstanding intellect was Lord Hailsham—possibly the best brain in the Conservative Party during the past 50 years.

The strongest claim was that of Mr R. A. Butler, who had played a distinguished part in public affairs since he first became Under-Secretary of State for India in 1934. He had devoted supporters and, had he refused to serve under anyone else, he must have been chosen. But this was not in the nature of the animal. And so the choice fell upon Sir Alec Douglas-Home, who had received astonishing and quite unexpected grassroots support at Blackpool. No one can say that it was mistaken. At the time it appeared certain that Labour would easily win the next general election. In the event they scraped home with a majority of five. The explanation is clear enough. The English—as contrasted with the Cornish, the Welsh and the Scots—are a race of snobs. There is nothing they like better than the grouse moor image. Their lasting prototype is Bertie Wooster.

Moral—it is always unsafe to predict the result of a selection contest. But the result will determine, nor perhaps the course of events but the style of leadership. Public life under Baldwin was wholly different from the years of Lloyd George. There could hardly have been a greater contrast than between Churchill and Attlee. Politics, like it or not, is always a matter not so much of principles as of personalities.

Dingle Foot

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THE HOUR FOR MR CALLAGHAN

There does not seem any reason to change our immediate reaction to the first ballot that Mr Callaghan will become leader of the Labour Party. It is not absolutely certain; in theory Mr Foot could get the thirty extra votes that he would need on top of Mr Benn's. Mr Healey's decision to stay in the fight does not alter the probability of Mr Callaghan becoming Prime Minister. In the present circumstances of the country we would regard that as a very acceptable outcome; Mr Callaghan is a man with whom people both inside and outside the Labour Party would be able to work.

The strength of Mr Foot's support is not surprising but it is disturbing. Whatever else he could do, Mr Foot would not be able to unite the country. Over the years he has established in the minds of Conservative voters —and in the minds of quite a few Labour voters—that he is basically hostile to the whole middle class; that he wants to change society in a way that would be intended to damage them. Conservatives see Mr Callaghan as a man who is a patriot first and a party patriot second, and none the worse a party patriot for that. They see Mr Foot as a patriot in intention, but as a man who would divide our society in practice. They fear him and because they fear him they dislike him.

Of course this image of militant and aggressive socialism is attractive to the left. There are too many people in the Labour Party who are hostile in this way. But in the country as a whole they are a small minority, quite inadequate as a basis of support for governing.

Many people in the Labour Party may not wish to be reminded of these facts but they are facts none the less. Mr Callaghan as Prime Minister could expect the cooperation and support of almost everyone in the country except perhaps for a few people on the far left. Mr Foot as Prime Minister would have to overcome the active suspicion of more than half the nation, and that would be a great handicap to his government. He would face similar suspicion overseas.

Now that Mr Roy Jenkins has withdrawn, it is natural to feel the full loss, not just for the Labour Party but for British politics, that he has not become Prime Minister at this moment. It was a time when we could have done with our best man and he is our best man.

Except for the immediate postwar age group of those who entered the House of Commons between 1945 and 1955, British politics is not at present well stocked with talent. Mr Jenkins is the outstanding talent of his generation on the Labour side. In achievement and intellectual quality he stands ahead of anyone except Mr Heath on the Conservative benches. Like Mr Heath Mr Jenkins enjoys a high international reputation; that is not merely a result of his European commitment; he represents in the present day the tradition of open-minded statesmanship for which Britain has been admired in the world.

Mr Jenkins has shown a combination of political patience and political courage; he has fought for causes in which he was in a minority in his own party; his career deserves the highest admiration. It is often the fate of genuinely moderate politicians to be more admired by people outside their own party than by the people inside: it is one of the consequences of the polarization imposed by our electoral system that it is difficult for such a man to become a party leader. We would hope at least that Mr Jenkins will continue to play a major part in the government of Britain where his international reputation is of national value. There could come a time which would be his moment as naturally as this would seem to be Mr Callaghan's.

LEBANON FALLS APART

The unity of the Lebanon is being shattered beyond remained in his palace in Brabrouit hills above Beirut a semblance of unity survived; at least he was accessible to consultation and political bargaining. Now his obduracy in refusing to resign has brought down upon him an attack by the independent Muslim army that has driven him out of his heavily shelled palace to the security of Jounieh, the centre of a Maronite district beyond the reach of his enemies. But the mere fact of his withdrawal from the capital serves to emphasize a de facto communal division of the country. No single force survives that could put it together again.

The Syrian Government has the strongest motive in saving what they can from the wreckage of Lebanese unity. The danger that has loomed much larger since their first intervention is of the control of southern Lebanon by the left-wing Muslim forces. If that were stabilized in a de facto partition of the Lebanon the Israeli border would be under threat. That prospect would provoke Israeli intervention, had there been any doubt Mr. Peres, the Israeli Defence Minister, this week gave warning enough. But how can the Syrians bring such pressure to bear on the obdurate Mr Franjieh as will make him give way to a more acceptable Lebanese Christian as head of state? That is the only way to rebuild Lebanese unity, yet any military action to promote it runs into opposition from the independent Lebanese Muslim army. Have the Syrians any other card to play now but the military one?

Every day more and more armed men are joining the action. Brigadier Aziz Ahdab, who tried to keep the regular Lebanese army neutral with his "corrective coup" two weeks ago, sees it steadily losing by desertion of Christians to their side or of Muslims to the Palestinian Arab Army that claims to control two-thirds of the country. Mr Kamal Jumblatt, the left-wing political leader has no hope of stemming the leftist military assault that was responsible for driving President Franjieh out of his palace save by the unconditional resignation of the President. Without that card to play he remains a prisoner of the leftist Muslims and thus uncooperative towards Syrian intervention.

In face of these complexities the Syrians remain anxious but undecided. They know that their intervention in the Lebanon is unpopular and that a policy that now leans towards the Christian side where before they leaned towards the Muslims will aggravate the hostility. King Hussein's arrival in Damascus yesterday marks his concern but may not help to find an answer. Meanwhile the casualties are heavier than before, most of them civilians killed or wounded by machine gun bullets, mortars and shells them where they lived. Areas of Beirut riskily lived in for a year past are now being forsaken. There is not much left to fall apart.

NO TRANSFORMATION FOR LEYLAND

It would be difficult to exaggerate the seriousness of the crisis that faces British Leyland this spring. Those who thought that the necessary douche of cold realism had already begun to work its influence on management and workers alike have been shown to be entertaining premature optimism. Faced with the first pressing problem of increasing productivity by reducing the level of overmanning and by low forecasts of demand. the company had been working on low production schedules. So, when the demand in the car market turned out to be significantly higher than was expected, British Leyland has been particularly badly placed to meet it. The present round of pay disputes, which if long continued will bring the company to a standstill, have caught the company in a particularly vulnerable posture.

The present rash of disputes underlines the lack of wisdom in the way in which the management have announced a recent return to profitable operation. Their hands were almost wholly forced by Lord Ryder and the National Enterprise Board, whose seeming desperate concern to make the nationalized British Leyland appear to be an instant success has led to a lack of realism about prospects and progress. To get British Leyland right will be a long haul and a considerable achievement. The necessary psychological change will not be helped by rose-tinted observations about the trading performance over a few months. Indeed, in so far as they allow some to believe that the true crisis is past, such remarks are positively counter-productive.

The present wave of trouble seems to come directly from the fact that British Leyland does not have a basic structure of company-wide wage negotiations. The result is that the company is faced by a continual process of wage negotiations with small and large groups of workers, in which one is being played off against another and differential pay problems follow each other with inevitable regularity. Many of the individual claims that result, if met by the company would almost certainly involve breaches of the existing pay code. In the circumstances, the time must be right for the nettle to be grasped and for the company to make the shift to a basic company-wide pay negotiation structure. If it cannot be done with the future of the company hanging in the balance, it can never be done.

The Falkland Islands

From Sir Miles Clifford

Sir, In his disturbing article (March 22), to which you gave prominence, Mr Michael Frenchman quotes the Argentine Foreign Minister as saying apropos The Falklands "they are part of our territory". As many of your readers will be understandably ignorant of the rights and wrongs of this tedious controversy, may I be permitted to put the record straight?

The Falkland Islands were believed to have been first sighted by John Davis in the "Desire" when blown off course in 1592 and they were subsequently well known to French merchantmen plying between St Malo and the River Plate who named them *les Malouines*. A party of French settlers at the instigation of the Viscomte de Bougainville (following the fall of Quebec) established themselves ashore in 1764 and a British naval party was landed, ily a few months later and just round the corner, in 1765; both rties claimed the Islands for their spective suzerains. The French im was, however, ceded when Spa invoked the Treaty of Tordesils under which—following rivary between Spain and Portugal-all rights of discovery in these wate had been allotted to the forme by Pope Alexander VI.

In 770 a Spanish naval force in great superior strength evicted the British garrison and so brought England and Spain to the brink of war bt the dispute was settled "without prejudice to the prior right of sovereignty" and the British garrison was restored. The Fort was abandoned in 1774 but a plaque fixed to the wall asserting Britain's claim to ownership.

Subsequent and intermittent Spanish occupation terminated in 1806 and the islands were left in limbo until 1820 when they were claimed by the United Provinces of Rio de la Plata as the inheritors of Imperial Spain and they dispatched an emissary to take formal possession—it proved to be nothing more. A few years later one Louis Vernet, a naturalized Argentinian of French descent, headed an expedition to the islands and began to develop their resources (sealing and the exploitation of the wild cattle) but in 1831 he involved his government in difficulties with the United States through his seizure of two American sealing ships whereupon a United States corvette, the Lexington, destroyed the settlement and declared the Islands free of all governance.

On January 2, 1834, after a year of chaos, a British naval vessel appeared in Berkely Sound, evicted the Argentine settlers and raised the Union Jack ashore where it has flown ever since. The Islands were formally gazetted as a colony in 1841 so that there has been uninterrupted British administration for 135 years which, of itself, constitutes a legitimate claim to sovereignty.

The population is wholly British and is intensely loyal to the Crown; they have been repeatedly assured that there will be no change in status unless they, themselves, demand it and of this there is not the remotest likelihood. That the economy can be improved—it rests at present entirely on wool—is not in question and they will await with interest, and with hope, the recommendations of Lord Shackleton's recent mission.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

MILES CLIFFORD,
The Athenæum,
Pall Mall, W.
March 23.

The British Library

From Mr Stephen Wildman

Sir, In answer to Mr Dennis's query (Letters, March 22), I understand from contemporary evidence that the only recommendation Karl Marx would have needed when applying for his ticket in the summer of 1850 was a letter from a householder stating that he was a fit person to read in the British Museum.

The recent complainers at the inadequacies of the Reading Room should be grateful that they do not suffer the trials of "A Student", whose remarkably similar gripes on this subject were published in these columns on May 10, 1862. Apart from normal pressures, there were such nuisances as idlers attracted by the warmth, schoolboys from "crammers" whose parents were unable to afford school books, and—worst of all—novel-readers. But there was one hazard seldom complained of today:

"A good many young ladies also frequent the reading room, one division of which is very considerably devoted exclusively to their use; but, not content with this privilege, many of them invade the other portions of the room, and mingle with us male students, to our very great discomfort, for they gossip not a little, and flirt and ogle a good deal."

The library works as well as it can within its obvious limitations; I am fortunate in having the miraculously efficient service of the Cambridge University Library at my disposal, but in the other institutions which I use, such as the British Museum, the Public Record Office, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, in no case would I willingly exchange the consciously inspiring atmosphere of their reading rooms—a necessary quality which the architects of the nineteenth century understood so well—for a modern "scientifically soundproofed" reading room such as that at the new Guildhall Library, which adds to the injury of a depressingly banal interior the insult of not even providing cloakrooms for its readers.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN WILDMAN,
Queens' College Middle Common Room,
The Woodville Room,
Queens' College,
Cambridge.
March 22.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Labur Party and elecoral reform

From MRobin Glendinning

Sir, Tl system that the Labour Party a using to elect their new leader an interesting one. It is careful designed to produce a leader who commands an overall majori within the party. It is a systemhat will do as much as any systeman to unite the party behind its neveader.

The ethod used by the Labour Party works in exactly the same fashio as the count in a proportional epresentation election. It is in prciple a proportional represenman system of election. It ensur, for instance, that first prefences cast for candidates who comeit the bottom of the poll are not vsted. It ensures that the eventual inner has not only a much widebasis for support than all his rival but that in fact he commands an erall majority. It guards agaist the election of a leader who can ain substantial but minority supprt and who would, therefore, become a divisive figure.

Does the country as a whole not deseve the benefits of such a system Is the ordinary voter not to be clowed to express preferences, rathr than stark choices?

Te Parliamentary Labour Party are choosing a new leader by a system of proportional representation They are also choosing a new Prime Minister by that method.

A the next General Election, the mar of their choice may well become the choice also of the electorze. Under the straight X system of voting in that election, he will not have to unite the country as he united the party, he will merely have to poll more votes than the Tories.

Yours, etc.
ROBIN GLENDINNING, Organizer,
Alliance Party of Northern Ireland,
Headquarters:
88 University Street,
Belfast.
March 23.

Battle of Hastings site

From Miss Margery Weiner

Sir, Mr John R. Hose's concern for the future of Battle Abbey, "this hallowed piece of England", (Letters, March 25) is shared by many, most of all by those who live in its shadow. The great anxiety is that the property may fall into alien hands.

Certainly plans are afoot to save the Abbey for the nation, but it is feared that they will be too little and too late. An international appeal to all English- and French-speaking nations would undoubtedly raise the sum necessary to preserve Battle Abbey inviolate for future generations, but time is short. Will no one come forward to sponsor such a broadly based appeal? Even so little as a shilling a head from the United States and the Commonwealth would

I am, Sir, Yours etc,
MARGERY WEINER,
36 Lower Lake,
Battle,
East Sussex.

From Mr R. V. Ashdown

Sir, Mr John R. Hose (March 25) may be dismayed to read of the proposed sale of the site of the Battle of Hastings. I, as an Englishman, can see no good reason to preserve the site of the most ignominious defeat in our history which resulted in the subjugation of the common people by an alien aristocracy for several hundred years. Surely such unhappy episodes in our history are best forgotten after 900 years.

Yours faithfully,
R. V. ASHDOWN,
3 Trourbeck Road, SE14.

From Mr S. J. Ahearne

Sir, Mr John R. Hose's letter expresses understandable concern at the sale of the site of the Battle of Hastings. Such worries would be at least ameliorated if those in authority were to ensure adequate arrangements to prevent export.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. AHEARNE,
Kerrys, Causeway End,
Felsted,
Essex.

Darenth valley motorway

From Mr Raymond Plummer

Sir, Mr Geoffrey Grigson (letter, March 26) is quite right. It would be sacrilege to destroy Samuel Palmer's valley by driving a six-lane motorway through it. The Darenth valley, which we have fought to defend from mineral workings and speculative building, is an appreciating asset for visitors from all over the world; and it would be ironic if the department which has officially recognized it as an area of outstanding natural beauty should itself be the cause of its destruction.

Especially because there is a practical alternative. The route of the M 26 (Wrotham-Sevenoaks) road has already been agreed; and completion is scheduled two years ahead of the projected Swanley-Sevenoaks M 25. By relatively minor adjustments to the design of the interchanges at Wrotham (with M 20) and Sevenoaks (with M 25 west) the M 26 could become the Dartford-Severoaks section of the South Orbital Road.

The admitted disadvantage would be the addition of some 10 miles driving. The benefit would be much needed relief for the Darenth valley villages of Farningham, Eynsford, Shoreham and Otford at least two years earlier than the alternative. And, of course, the saving of Samuel Palmer's valley and the irrevocable destruction of 200 acres of good farming and forestry land.

It is very difficult, as the architect Richard Reid says in a study of Shoreham village we shall be publishing next week, to define the quality of the Darenth valley. It has a typical understated English picturesque aura which Samuel Palmer captured perfectly. How to present the need to protect it to the computer-minded road planners is a delicate problem. But we intend to make the attempt.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND PLUMMER, President,
The Shoreham Society,
Dunstall Cottage,
Shoreham, Sevenoaks,
Kent.

Political realities in southern Africa

From Mr Hugh Fraser, Conservative MP for Stafford and Stone

Sir, It is surely time that the Foreign Office, the House of Commons and some of your correspondents on southern Africa got off the various post-colonial, ideological kith and kin or negrophile hooks on which they are impaled, and judged the problem in the simpler and more brutal terms of power politics.

In the light of the failure of four initiatives, it is clear that Britain has no power nor, since UDI, any responsibility or indeed obligation to affect the internal affairs of Rhodesia. Indeed our missionary forays seem equally unpopular with both black and white. It is now clear, too, that sanctions, rather like import controls, so much advocated for this country by Messrs Benn and Heffer, have not destroyed the Rhodesian economy but have in many ways enhanced it. It is not yet totally clear, but now certainly possible, that the Russian/Cuban intervention in Angola has strengthened rather than weakened Smith. Twelve thousand Cuban troops in a country four times the size of France, with at least one hostile guerrilla movement active, can hardly be comfortable. Nor can Presidents Mobutu, Kaunda or Seretse Khama view the Angolan situation with warm regard.

America's benign neglect of southern Africa is being electrified by the communist threat; every Reagan success heightens the realities of Kissinger's warning, as does Latin American information about Cuba flowing into the State Department. Strategically the weakness of the neighbouring black states' economies and acute food shortages could favour Smith. The instability of the Machel regime in Mozambique and divisions among the guerrilla movements do likewise. Tactically the level of military intervention is limited. Even President Machel is unlikely to put his capital at risk from Rhodesian air strikes. And as far as second strikes are concerned, any Russian or Cuban air force involvement could stimulate an American response.

The main purpose surely then of HMG should be to attempt to de-escalate a situation which has been puffed up into crisis proportions in part by the duplicity of Smith—including the trap into which the Foreign Secretary fell; in part by the posturing of Machel; and in part by the real, if temporary, success of Dr Castro.

Because of sanctions, of course, HMG finds itself in a dilemma. But finance for President Machel—which means finance for murder—is not acceptable to the British public. Ways for relieving starvation in Mozambique might be contrived through the International Red Cross. But to go along with, or even instigate, vicarious action by the United Nations would be totally irresponsible for a government whose policy, politically weak and economically precarious to say the least, and where American interests are becoming more inimical to the creation of a new and unnecessary front for Western power and diplomacy.

The eventual racial outcome for southern Africa remains uncertain. But in any way to precipitate dangers to crisis point is not only needless but profoundly rash, especially in view of almost inevitable military contingency commitments which Britain today could not possibly fulfil.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH FRASER,
House of Commons.
March 25.

From Mr Murray Sanderson

Sir, Mr McCleery (March 10) condemns those who adopt a "holier than thou" attitude towards Mr Smith. He is right. Mr Smith is entitled to understanding and sympathy in his predicament.

However, observers who have studied the situation are quite entitled to adopt a "wiser than thou" attitude, or at least they will be if Mr Smith fails to reach a settlement. For this would confirm him to be incredibly short-sighted. There is no escaping the tide of history: majority rule is inevitable, in Rhodesia as elsewhere. The only matter at issue is the double question "When and How?" Mr Smith's answer to "When?" has hitherto been "As late as possible, and in any case not in my lifetime." But "When?" affects "How?" and cannot be separated from it.

When power passes from a minority to a majority timing is vital. The transfer must come neither too soon nor too late. If it comes too soon, the majority will lack educated leaders with experience of participating in government; in short it will lack the statesmen who alone can persuade it to rule responsibly. If too late, the majority will be consumed with frustration and with hatred for the minority which has held it back. The object, in the interests of all, must be to maximise responsibility and to minimise hatred.

A hard task indeed. It is one of which Mr Smith does not, alas, appear even to be conscious. He seems instead to have adopted the attitude "*Après moi le deluge*". Let us hope he will yet prove us wrong.

Yours faithfully,
MURRAY SANDERSON,
PO Box 2253,
Kitwe, Zambia.
March 20.

From Mr R. J. D. Leeper

Sir, You say the white Rhodesians are lacking in realism, presumably because they believe there is no tolerable future for them under black rule, and that their only choice is either to get out or to stand and fight.

Can we, in view of what has happened everywhere else, seriously contest that conclusion or honestly condemn their choice? What would we do if we were in their shoes?

It would, of course, be much more convenient for us in Britain if they accepted the inevitability of defeat, and our Government has evidently decided, with impeccable logic, that our national interests are best served by emboldening their enemies. But need we add insults to injury?

Yours sincerely,
R. J. D. LEEPER,
Lammas Cottage,
Lammas Lane,
Esher, Surrey.
March 25.

Soviet armed strength

From Mrs Elizabeth Young

Sir, Professor Galbraith's letter (March 24) draws attention to well-established seasonal appearance of alarming reports of Soviet military strength. The question then arises, at which time of year are estimates of Soviet strength least ill-founded? (Given the Soviet passion for secrecy, there will always be scope for wide disagreement between experts.)

One could argue that it is only just before going sailing that you seriously concern yourself with the weather forecast: that no one takes any interest in this probably quite important topic except when the expenditure of public money is actually being discussed. One could draw attention to Professor Wohlstetter's studies which show that Washington's seasonal Russian-strategic-nuclear threat figures, after some exaggerations in the very early 1960s, have always underestimated the actual Russian build-up, not, as the story has it, overestimated it.

But none of these interesting matters actually answers the question, what is the nature of Soviet military strength now, and with what degree of alarm should we view it?

And here Mr Schaffer (March 24) is unconvincing because of his blandly uncritical attitude to all things Soviet and his Lenin Peace Prize, and Lord Chalfont and General Walker (letter, March 22) are unconvincing because they are so shrill and so pessimistic. So who shall we believe? Of your correspondents Dr Bertram (March 18) seems the least unbelievable. Can one hope for more? Hardly.

Yours etc,
ELIZABETH YOUNG,
100 Bayswater Road, W2.
March 25.

From Dr Christoph Bertram

Sir, You were good enough to print a letter from me recently on the subject of Soviet military power and Nato defence in which I criticized some of the judgments made in an article by Lord Chalfont and another by a special correspondent on page one of your issue of March 15. These two articles referred to a so-called Nato study on the possibility of a Soviet surprise attack on Western Europe, said to have been prepared by a senior Nato officer and to expose in detail the basic weaknesses of Nato's current military strategy and the total inadequacy of the current conventional forces of the West.

Ten days later you reveal in *The Times* of March 25, in a brief report on page seven, that the "Nato study" so prominently displayed was in fact written six years ago as part of a doctoral thesis for Brussels University and referring to the military situation in Europe four to six years earlier than that.

It is indeed good news that current Nato planning is based on more thorough assessments.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPH BERTRAM,
International Institute for Strategic Studies,
18 Adam Street, WC2.
March 25.

Ordnance Survey prices

From the Chairman of the Map Publishers Group

Sir, Recently the Ordnance Survey has increased the selling price of each of their published maps by a substantial amount, often by as much as 50 per cent. Because the increases in 1975 were extraordinary, they were queried in the House by Ronald Bell. For the Department of the Environment, G. J. Oakes replied that government departments, are not subject to the restrictions of the Price Code but similar disciplines are applied.

The Map Publishers Group, which is affiliated to the Publishers Association, is now vigorously campaigning to try to discover precisely what these disciplines are, as the Ordnance Survey increases on both their own products and through their royalty charges on the products of other publishers, could well have a catastrophic effect on the existing market. The problem is now acute because on January 1 the Ordnance Survey increased copyright charges to the commercial map publisher by, in some cases, 360 per cent and more.

The area of royalty has also been altered to encompass many types of publications including those which are produced specifically for educational purposes and previously had been exempted. A further increase of 100 per cent is scheduled for implementation in 1977, producing in effect, a seven fold increase in 12 months.

These new swingeing charges will increase the selling prices of maps, atlases and guides by exorbitant amounts at a time when the market is already in the grip of the general recession.

These new charges are particularly shameful in that they have been introduced at a time when the Whitford Committee is investigating all aspects of the present copyright legislation and their findings are not expected to be published for some time. They also coincide with an official plea from the Prices and Incomes Board to the publishers to hold book prices down.

In their determined effort to make the map user pay for what is a public responsibility, the National Survey—the Ordnance Survey have inflicted such increases on the commercial map makers as may well ensure that their own operation has no viable competition. Historically, copyright has been for the protection of the originator. The Ordnance Survey are now using it both to make profits and to damage an independent industry.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE PHILIP, Chairman,
The Map Publishers Group,
19 Bedford Square, WC1.
March 19.

The sale of church treasures

From Mr James Lees-Milne

Sir, There takes place in the Tuscan city of Arezzo on the first Sunday of every month what is called a "fiera antiquaria", an open air sale of antiques on an immense scale. I attended the last sale at which the regional journal, *Nazione*, claimed that 400 vendors were assembled. Indeed most of the squares and streets of the city centre were occupied by their stalls.

I do not think I am exaggerating in stating that far more than half of the antiques for sale had come from churches. Among them I saw such objects as large and small statues of Christ, our Lady and the saints; candlesticks and candelabra galore; holy crowns and coronals; chalices, paxes, pyxes and thuribles; crucifixes, illuminated missals, holy books of every sort and century; embroidered vestments, silver doors of tabernacles, gold sarcophaguses, reliquaries containing martyrs' remains; stations of the cross; votive offerings in the shape of silver hearts, legs, arms and limbs made in gratitude for miraculous cures; jewelry which formerly adorned images; altar rails and altars—in other words hundreds, if not thousands of things given by pious persons to embellish their favourite churches, and render thanks, love and homage to God.

In consequence the churches—not just those of Tuscany, let it be clearly understood, but all over Italy and France to my certain knowledge—are being despoiled of whatever contributes to their beauty, and serves to kindle religious faith.

These things are not being stolen from churches. They are being sold by the incumbents of the churches on the deliberate instruction of the bishops and hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

In other words Catholic churches by the thousand are being systematically impoverished spiritually and aesthetically to absolutely nobody's benefit. Such zealous philistinism has not been witnessed since the iconoclasm of the eighth-ninth centuries, perpetrated by the Monophysites, who minimized the human side of the incarnation, and the Manicheans who held that all matter was evil, under the inspiration of Leo the Isaurian. His avowed aim, as every historian knows, was to subject the Church to the state!

The objectives today are not dissimilar. A senseless puritanism and a nasty purposeful crypto-Marxism are the paramount motives. The only difference lies in the instrument of these mistaken and hateful practices. The iconoclasts of the eighth-ninth centuries were heretics, whom the Church quite properly condemned. The philistines of today are the Church itself. And the protesters, like myself, are deemed the heretics.

Never before in the long history of Christianity have the faithful been betrayed by their pastors.

Yours,
JAMES LEES-MILNE,
19 Lansdown Crescent,
Bath.
March 25.

Newspaper closed shop

From the Chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers

Sir, Your reporter's efforts to condense three hours of evidence by editors and directors of Mirror Group Newspapers before the Royal Commission on the Press yesterday, have resulted in two misleading statements.

You quote Mr Tony Miles, Editorial Director, as saying that an NUJ closed shop existed at the *Daily Mirror*. He did not. What he did say was that the *Mirror* had almost 100 per cent NUJ membership, and had now agreed a *post-entry* closed shop which is an entirely different thing.

Secondly, you quote Mr Geoffrey Pinnington, editor of the *Sunday People*, as defending "the right of newspapers to invade the privacy of public figures". He did not. No "right to invade privacy" exists, and Mr Pinnington is far too experienced and responsible a journalist to have expressed himself with such imprecision.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD PICKERING,
Holborn Circus, EC1.
March 26.

View of National Gallery

From Mr O. P. S. Jones

Sir, How pleasing it would be to admire the National Gallery building as depicted in its advertisement in *The Times* (March 24).

Stand at the top of Whitehall or The Mall and you will see what is probably the most disfigured public building in London.

Yours faithfully,
O. P. S. JONES,
6 Radcliffe Square,
Putney Hill, SW15.
March 24

"Dear Reverend"

From the Rev D. F. C. Hawkins

Sir, A young member of my congregation in Nigeria once addressed me in a letter as "My dear interminable Canon". I try to believe he intended it kindly.

Yours obediently,
D. F. C. HAWKINS,
The Rectory, Clifford Chambers,
Stratford-on-Avon.
March 23.

From Mr Christopher Child

Sir, It is not only the style of an opening address that can be reverent. As a young District Officer Cadet, I received an application for employment as a junior clerk in the District Office. After setting out his qualifications, the writer finished his letter by saying that "nightly, I pray to the Almighty, to whom Your Worship closely resembles, that my application may be successful."

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
CHRISTOPHER CHILD,
Bourne Farm House, 6 Bourne Lane,
Tonbridge,
Kent.
March 25.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 26: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh today travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight to visit the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment at Malvern.

Having been received upon arrival at Pershore by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hereford and Worcester (Admiral Sir Deric Holland-Martin), The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh drove to the Establishment and were received by the Minister of State for Defence (the Right Hon William Rodgers, MP).

Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque and later, with His Royal Highness, honoured the Director (Mr R. J. Lees) with her presence at luncheon.

This afternoon The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh toured the Establishment.

The Duchess of Grafton, Mr William Heseltine, Air Vice-Marshal Brian Stanbridge, Air Commodore Archie Winskill and Major Robin Broke were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

March 26: Princess Alexandra was present at the Annual Reception held by the Chairman of the Three Rivers District Council which took place this evening at Watersmeet, Rickmansworth.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Queen Ingrid of Denmark celebrates her birthday on Sunday.

Birthdays today

Mr Julian Amery, MP, 57; Mr James Callaghan, MP, 64; Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hutton, 86; Sir Douglas Logan, 66; Sir Henry Plumb, 51.

TOMORROW: The Right Rev Dr C. K. N. Bardsley, 69; Mr Dirk Bogarde, 55; Marjorie Countess of Brecknock, 76; Professor A. D. Gardner, 92; Mr Robert Harris, 76; Mr William E. Irving, 95; Dame Flora Robson, 74; Lord Justice Stephenson, 66.

Meeting

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

The seventy-third annual meeting of the governors of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund was held at No 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2, on March 26, 1976.

In the absence of the president, the Hon Angus Ogilvy, the annual report and accounts for the year ended September 30, 1975, were presented by Professor Sir Eric Scowen, chairman of the council.

Marriage

Sir Michael Hadow and Mrs D. Sieff

The marriage took place on March 25 in London between Sir Michael Hadow and Mrs Daphne Sieff.

Rethinking current attitudes to Christian remarriage

By Richard Holloway
Rector of Old St Paul's, Edinburgh

Several provinces of the Anglican Church are presently engaged in a review of its marriage discipline. At the moment none of the Anglican churches in Britain permits the remarriage of divorced persons in church, though in other provinces of the Anglican communion, such as Canada, canon law has already been reformed to permit it in certain cases. Similar reforms are inevitable in the churches in Britain, though, in the nature of the case, it is impossible to predict when.

I hope, however, that when the reforms are made we will not follow the example of the church in Canada and create an elaborate and time-consuming procedure for adjudicating each application for remarriage in church. In most normal cases the parish priest, where his conscience permits, should be able to exercise sufficient wisdom and prudence to deal with the situation, and only particularly complicated cases need be referred to the bishop. On the other hand, neither priests nor bishops can set themselves up as investigative agencies. Much has to be taken on trust. But the fact is that most second marriages are more stable than first marriages, and most of them are entered with integrity and the right intention.

I also hope we would not follow the example of the Eastern Orthodox Church which permits remarriage in church of divorced persons, but makes the second marriage a penitential affair, a sort of combined nuptial and requiem mass. All acts of penitence and amendment should come before the ceremony, which should itself be a thing of joy and an occasion of hope. We must resist the ancient ecclesiastical temptation of offering people cake while making quite sure they do not enjoy eating it.

But these are largely secondary matters. What of the theological issues which lie behind the whole debate? The main document in the case is Chapter 10 of Mark's Gospel. This seems clear enough. God's intention for mankind is lifelong marriage. Jesus categorically forbids divorce: "What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Nevertheless, it is possible to interpret this passage in a way that injects a note of caution into our confident interpretation of the text. The background to the whole passage is the inferior status of women in Mosaic marriage law, and the ease with which they were dismissed if someone else took the man's fancy. This chapter therefore, can be seen as a revolutionary assertion of the rights of women. Given that context, and the polemical intention of Jesus, we should not, perhaps, be too confident in our interpretation of the passage.

However, I do not think that this is the main focus of the debate. After all, there are other sayings of Jesus which are even less ambiguous, but which we have not elevated to the status of positive law, such as: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth"; or, "Do not resist one who is evil." The literal sense of these prohibitions forbids the present investment policy of the Church of England, and refuses Christians the right to serve in the police or the armed forces or to install burglar alarms on their property.

Yet we have found ways of living with these explosive prohibitions and ways which, I believe, have a certain tragic integrity. We say: "Yes, this is the kind of world God wants: this is his blueprint for a perfected humanity. Meanwhile, we must live in the terrible knowledge of our own imperfection and allow that winsome and terrifying vision to influence where it cannot command." And we are to live in that dilemma without despair because Christ proclaimed the forgiveness of sins as the main and abiding fact of the Gospel. So we are able to carry on. We are given the grace to live with our endless and aching failures.

Except, apparently, if we divorce and marry. Why? Why this single exception? Why this single monument of unbudgeable legalism? It is because of the vows that are so beautifully taken: "... for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part." It cannot be that. The Church has always found ways of releasing people from vows which have become a false bondage, such as solemn monastic vows. And we allow this even here. We allow people to divorce their spouses or separate from them, to break the lifelong commitment after it has become unendurable. So it cannot be the breaking of the vow that bothers us.

What bothers us is this: the knowledge that people remarry after divorce they can confidently be expected to go to bed together and make love. That is the real heart of the debate. Behind it all lies the often unspoken assumption that sexual intercourse creates an unbreakable metaphysical bond, a permanent ontological link that cannot be severed. Once it happens something goes "clunk" in heaven, and that's it: you are fixed for life. But the Church has never followed that idea with completely ruthless logic. We have never taught that premarital intercourse forbids marriage to any but the previous lover. (Nowadays, that requirement would tax the ingenuity of the most versatile lawyer). And St Paul himself permitted remarriage of a convert deserted by a pagan spouse.

I am convinced that this is the real centre of the debate. This is where the revulsion is most keenly felt. The Church has a kind of automatic theory of sexuality, a sort of ex opere operato approach which fails to take account of the many different roles and expressions and contexts of sexual love. If we are going to embark upon a debate on the subject of marriage and divorce, we must begin by reexamining our attitudes towards the whole meaning of sex.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. C. Harden and Mrs P. A. Roberts

The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Harden, of Esher, Surrey, and Penelope, only daughter of Major and Mrs Edward Stuart-Hunt, of Exton, Hampshire.

Mr G. N. Ledden and Miss D. V. Long

The engagement is announced between Graham, younger son of Mr and Mrs S. W. Ledden, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Deborah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Long, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Dr M. G. Spencer and Miss H. F. Caudwell

The engagement is announced between Michael, only son of Mr and Mrs A. Spencer, of Harrow, and Helen, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs F. W. Caudwell, of Cheadle Cheshire.

Mr A. Varma and Miss K. Chopra

The engagement is announced between Mr Anil Varma, elder son of Mr and Mrs S. Varma, of Wimbledon, and Miss Kimmy Chopra, daughter of Mrs P. Chopra and the late Mr S. R. Chopra, of Chelsea.

France honours two British scientists

The title of Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur has been conferred on Professor Nicholas Kurti, FRS, professor of physics at Oxford University, in recognition of his contribution towards greater scientific cooperation between France and Britain, the French Embassy in London announces. Professor C. T. Dollery, professor of clinical pharmacology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, has received the title of Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite.



British power: Mrs Anne Armstrong, the American Ambassador, presenting a certificate of recognition and a cheque for $15,000 from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration yesterday to Mr Francis Bacon, the British inventor of the hydrogen-oxygen fuel cell. The cell mae a significant contribution to America's manned space programme during the 160s and 1970s.

Universities debate for Lords

By Our Political Staff

A lengthy debate on the state of Britain's universities will be held in the House of Lords on Wednesday at the instigation of Lord Fulton. The debate will be on the conditions and outlook for the universities, and considerable attention is expected to be devoted to the effects of reductions in finance.

Several vice-chancellors, including Lord Boyle, of Handsworth and Lord James of Rusholme, will be taking part, as will Lord Robbins, Lord Bullock, Lord Ritchie-Calder and Lord Annan.

Later in the day the Lords will debate the continued menace of rabies, on a question from Lord Mansfield, who is to ask what legal and practical measures the Government is taking to prevent an outbreak of the disease in Britain.

The House of Lords will rise for the Easter recess on April 14 and will reassemble on April 27.

OBITUARY

JOSEF ALBERS

Aesthetic of the square

Josef Albers, who died on Wednesday at New Haven, Connecticut, was a painter who linked in his own career and teaching the principles of design first formulated in European art at the Bauhaus with the more recent practice in the United States of an austerely simple, measured, often geometric type of abstract painting.

He experimented endlessly with colour relationships, ringing infinite variations on a single compositional theme—nested squares of colour whose gradations, harmonies, and contrasts were for him the essence of artistic experience. Others might find his squares within squares a thought monotonous but for Albers the geometric presentation was the way to make colours perform. In 1971 he was given a retrospective show at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

He was born in Bottrop, West Germany, in 1888, enrolled in a teachers' training college at Buren and later taught in primary schools in Westphalia. In 1913 he decided to study art seriously, attended the Royal Art School in Berlin until 1915 and then moved to Essen and Munich where his regard for the traditional and representational dwindled. His first lithographs and woodcuts (1916-19) were done in Essen in the Expressionist tradition of Erich Heckel and Karl Schmidt - Rottluff. At the Munich Art Academy he studied under Franz von Stuck who had been the teacher of Kandinsky and Klee.

When he was in his early 30s he entered the Bauhaus at Weimar where he graduated from student to teacher. In the early 1920s he was engaged in creating stained glass windows and also produced some glass paintings that first revealed his use of the square as a distinct form. They were excursions into the relationship between line, shape, colour, transparency and opacity. The furniture he designed at this time shows his attachment to similar principles; it was characterized by smooth surfaces, uniform texture and durability; he evolved a laminated chair intended for mass production.

After the Bauhaus was closed Albers went to the United States where he preached the Bauhaus faith. He obtained a post at Black Mountain College in North Carolina, where for the next 16 years, he gave unorthodox and wide ranging courses in design.

In 1950, when Yale university set up a department of design, Albers was appointed principal, a job from which he retired in 1958.

In his last years his paintings, which had never sold for the prices achieved by those of some of his less famous contemporaries began to bring him a substantial income, but he and his wife continued to live modestly. In 1970 they moved from their white Cape Cod cottage in New Haven to a small split-level house in the nearby suburb of Orange, Connecticut. Last May, the Albers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

PROFESSOR EUSTACE PHILLIPS

M. J. B. writes:

Eustace Phillips, who died in Belfast on March 19, after a short illness, was a distinguished scholar in the several fields of ancient medicine, of the ancient Near East, and of nomadism—the last-named topic that particularly appealed to something in his own nature. Distinguished scholar though he was, he hid his learning under a modest, not to say shy, exterior.

King's Scholar at Westminster School, Westminster Scholar at Christ Church, 1st class in Mods, 1st class in Greats, it was after a brief excursion into the administrative Civil Service in the Office of Works that he returned to academic life in 1935, coming to Belfast University as Junior Lecturer in Classics in 1939—via the Universities of Manchester and Bristol. From 1941 to 1945 he served in the Intelligence Corps.

Returning to Belfast in 1946 as Lecturer in Greek, he was promoted Reader in 1955 and was appointed to a personal chair of Greek Antiquities in 1974. At the university he made solid and wide-ranging own contributions and of the departments of philosophy and archaeology, solid and wide-ranging contributions also to the world of learning, culminating in his book on Greek Medicine (1973). This was preceded by The Royal Hordes: Nomad Peoples of the Steppes (1965) and by The Mongols (1969).

On his retirement less than a year ago, he announced his firm determination to continue his work. But, alas, he was cut off too soon. The world of scholarship has lost a true devotee, among whose greatest pleasures in life was learned conversation.

He leaves a widow, a son and two daughters.

LORD MONTGOMERY

Lord Hunt writes:

I served under Monty as second in command of a motor battalion in Italy and, for three years, on his staff in Central European Command at Fontainebleau. I remember him with affection as an intensely personal person who, by this token, endeared himself to everyone of all ranks under his command. He possessed an exceptional degree that magnetic and mysterious power to inspire confidence, which is one necessary attribute of greatness.

I am only one of very many who will remember Monty on some dusty Italian road, leaping from his staff car, fly whisk in hand, to greet a group of officers or a platoon of soldiers with disarming informality, to tell us his intentions in clear and simple language, make us laugh with some absurd turn of speech, and speed us on our way with fresh hope and assurance of victory, imparted through the penetrating grey eyes of a very remarkable man.

Even his vanity was endearing. After a lecture to the assembled staff at SHAPE in 1953 on the first ascent of Everest, Monty (then Deputy to US Army General Al Grunther) ordered all his officers to buy a copy of my book, directing their attention to Appendix III. "There you will find", he said, "the basis for planning this enterprise prepared by an officer who was trained on my staff." No one had any doubt that it was Monty, not Hillary, Tenzing or myself, who had "conquered" Everest.

We badly need more such men to lead us today.

SIR HUBERT HULL

Sir Hubert Hull, CBE, who was president of the Transport Tribunal from 1951 to 1962, died on March 24. He was 88.

Born in September, 1887, the second son of Robert Hull, of Preston, Lancashire, he was educated at Stonyhurst, and called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1910, of which he was made a bencher in 1945. A man of ability and a sound lawyer, he enjoyed a good common law practice. At one time he was junior counsel to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and Commissioners of Crown Lands.

From 1939 to 1948 he was a temporary Civil Servant, carrying out the work of an assistant procurator-general. In 1947 he sat as a member of the Royal Commission on the Press. He was later appointed an official referee, an office which he held from 1949 to 1950.

He married in 1915 Judith, eldest daughter of P. F. S. Stokes, barrister-at-law, and they had two sons and four daughters.

LORD AILWYN

Captain Lord Ailwyn, CBE, a deputy chairman of committees and a Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords from 1957 to 1972, died on March 23 at the age of 88.

The second son of the first Baron Ailwyn PC, KCVO, he was educated at Stubbington and HMS Britannia and entered the Royal Navy in 1902. He was afloat throughout the First World War in the Dreadnaught and Princess Royal, Grand Fleet. He retired in 1934 but saw service again in the Second World War. He was president of the China Association 1943-48. He was a Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace, for Suffolk.

He married in 1935 Cecil Lorna, daughter of Hugh Barclay of Colney Hall, Norfolk, and widow of Col Malise Graham, DSO.

He succeeded his eldest brother in 1936 and is himself succeeded by his youngest brother the Hon Carol Arthur Fellowes.

SIR MICHAEL DILLWYN-VENABLES LLEWELYN

A.C. writes:

One of the most effective achievements of Sir Michael Dillwyn-Venables-Llewelyn was in command of the only Officer Cadet Training Unit in the Middle East at Acre during the war, when he was in charge of cadets who became officers from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Egypt, Cyprus and Jews and Arabs from Palestine, as well as many from the United Kingdom.

From his first day there when he went on parade as a high-ranking Guards officer, took a rifle from a cadet rather casually and showed us all the right way to drill with it, he inspired admiration, trust and affection to an extraordinary degree in all of whatever rank under his charge. In addition to military training he infected us all with all the persistence in difficulties, tolerance of others and above all cheerfulness and a sense of humour in all situations which has stood us in good stead ever since, and for which he will be long remembered with continuing affection by many people in many occupations throughout the civilized world.

CANON MOWBRAY SMITH

D. C. R. writes:

Mowbray Smith, who died recently aged 96, was one of the last surviving priests to have been ordained by Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln from 1885 to 1910. Among the simple yet profound sayings of King which he preserved for posterity was this: "If you do what you can, God will do what you can't." In the congregation at Grantham, where Mowbray served as curate, sat the future Archbishop of Brisbane and Bishop of London, William Wand.

From Grantham he went as domestic chaplain to Bishop Chase at Ely, so beginning his long service to that diocese. Perhaps his best work was done at Wisbech St Mary, where for 37 years he beautified the church and taught the Catholic faith.

On reaching an age when most men would have retired, Mowbray became chaplain to Queen Anne School, Caversham. He loved children, and in his will left money to the choristers of Ely Cathedral, Lincoln Minster and King's College, Cambridge, with the request that they should pray for the repose of his soul.

Luncheon

West Africa Committee

The West Africa Committee gave a luncheon yesterday in honour of a delegation from the Ghana Manufacturers' Association, led by its president, Mr J. K. Rockson, at the Travellers' Club. The chairman, Mr W. T. G. Gates, presided.

Dinners

Navy Works/CE-in-C Department

A reunion dinner of the Navy Works/CE-in-C Department, Admiralty, was held at the Naval Club last night. The chairman was Mr R. W. Bishop and the speakers were Sir William Harris, Mr A. F. J. Grant and Mr Robert Neil.

Wheelwrights' Company

The Master, Wardens and court of the Wheelwrights' Company held a court dinner at Butchers' Hall yesterday evening. Among the guests were:

The Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, Lord Furnivood, Lord Auckland and the Masters of the Farmers', Fruiterers' and Carmen's Companies.

Company of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen

The Master, Wardens and court of assistants of the Company of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen held a dinner at Tuckers' Hall, Exeter, last night in honour of the Master of the Clothworkers' Company and the Master of the Farriers' Company. The Master, Mr J. Parkin, presided.

Oil and Chemical Plant Constructors' Association

The Oil and Chemical Plant Constructors' Association dinner was held yesterday evening at Grosvenor House. The president, Mr J. Anderson, was in the chair and the principal speaker was Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.

Leeds University Old Students' Association

The annual dinner of Leeds University Old Students' Association in London was held last night at Roehampton Club. Dr E. M. Hunt presided and the other speakers were Mr Edward Lyons, QC, MP, Professor A. J. Brown, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University, and Mr R. E. Dupont.

Service dinner

RAF Dinner Club

The annual dinner of the RAF Dinner Club took place at the Park Lane Hotel yesterday evening. The guest of honour was Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphrey, Chief of the Air Staff and Air Commodore J. Langston presided.

Hampton Court and Kew summer opening

The kitchens, cellars and Tudor tennis court of Hampton Court Palace will reopen on Thursday. No charge will be made for admission. Entrance fees to the state apartments this summer will be 50p for adults and 10p for old-age pensioners and children. The banqueting house at Hampton Court will remain closed. The Royal Mews exhibition will be open daily from April 10 (closed on Mondays, except Bank holidays). The admission charge will be 5p.

[illegible] will reopen on Monday. Admission charges will be 15p for adults and 5p for old-age pensioners and children.

Both Kew Palace and Hampton Court Palace will be closed on Good Friday, April 16.

Latest wills

Miss Marguerite Dorothy Clarke, of Forest Hill, London, schoolteacher, left £16,994 net. After specific bequests, she left the residue to the Communist Party of Great Britain.

Mr James Robert Powell, of Wellington, left £58,050 net. After personal and charitable bequests, he left the residue equally between the RSPCA, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, National Children's Home, and the Shropshire Association for the Blind.

Other estates include (net, before duty paid; duty not disclosed):

Butler, Miss Nina Bessie Arabella, of Westminster £193,915
Drewitt, Mr Harold Leslie, of Chichester, farmer .. £121,940
Skyrme, Commander Frank Harold Elcho, of Winterbourne Gunner, near Salisbury £100,333
Underwood, Elizabeth Rosina, of Winchfield, Hampshire .. £167,925

University news

Oxford

Professor R. L. Herbert, MA, PhD(Yale), Robert Lehman Professor of the History of Art, Yale University, has been appointed to the Slade Professorship of Fine Art for the academic year 1977-78. The Laurence Binyon Prize has been awarded to D. S. Robinson, Pembroke College.

Cambridge

Professor C. N. L. Brooke, MA, LittD, Professor of History at Westfield College, London, has been elected Ecclesiastical History from October 1, 1977, on the retirement of the Rev Professor Gordon Rupp.

London

QUEEN ELIZABETH COLLEGE

Mr W. M. G. Bompas, secretary of the department of engineering at Cambridge University, has been appointed college secretary in succession to Miss D. M. H. Grylls from October 1.

Grants:

£13,403 from the Agricultural Research Council for three years for Dr P. Sherman's study of the textural characteristics and stability of food emulsions containing milk proteins, and £2,500 for a Landa film balance.

£10,325 from the Science Research Council for two years for Dr J. C. Dainty's study of diffraction-limited information from ground-based telescopes using speckle interferometry.

Manchester

Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following on May 12 or July 7:

LLD: The Duchess of Kent; Lord Bowden, Principal of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology; Sir George Ogden, chief executive of Greater Manchester Metropolitan County Council; Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, Lord Mayor of Manchester, 1975; Sir William Barry, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers; Hill professor of mechanics of solids at Cambridge University.

MA: Mr Morris Baker, a pioneer in the development of voluntary work with handicapped children; Mr H. M. Fairhurst, former president of the Manchester Society of Architects; Mr A. E. R. Gouldy, president of the Manchester Library and Philosophical Society; Miss Isabel MacWilliam, first governor of Styal Women's Prison.

MA (Econ): Mrs Helen MacLeod Hall, secretary to the faculty of economic and social studies.

MEd: Mr Leslie Ball, secretary to the board of the faculty of education, from 1955 to 1975.

Leeds

Dr Peter Ayscough, PhD (Cantab), ScD (Leeds), reader of physical chemistry, has been awarded a personal professorship.

Today's engagements

Exhibition: Japanese paintings and prints, British Museum, 10-5.

Exhibition: Fashion 1900-1939, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, 10-6.

HMS Hampshire, guided missile destroyer, open to public, Pool of London, 2-5.

English Folk Dance and Song Society, general meeting, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, 2.

Lecture: Nineteenth-century decorative arts, by Wellesley F. Clinton, Victoria and Albert Museum, 3.

[illegible] London, Covent Garden, meet Charing Cross Underground station, 2.

Tomorrow

Exhibition: Thracian treasures from Bulgaria, British Museum, 2.30-6 (final day).

Exhibition: Jewelry in Europe, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, 2.30-6 (final day).

Concert by Westminster Cathedral String Orchestra, St John's, Smith Square, 7.30.

City Walk: Historic Lincoln's Inn Fields, meet Law Courts, Strand, 3.

£165,000 for Italian classical landscape sets new record for Richard Wilson

By Philip Howard

An Italian classical landscape by Richard Wilson yesterday entered the mercenary record books of the trade by becoming one of the most expensive half dozen British paintings sold since the natives splashed woad and dealers splashed pounds.

It was sold for £165,000 with premium to Herner, the London dealer, at Christie's sale of English pictures. The previous record price for a Wilson was £63,000 at Christie's in 1973.

Richard Wilson (1713-82) was the son of a Welsh clergyman, whose good classical education led him to fall in love with the classical Italian landscapes of Claude and Gaspar Poussin. His work echoed their noble Roman classicism, and contrasted sharply with the naturalism of Constable.

His painting sold yesterday shows an extensive coastal landscape at evening. Shepherds and Shepherdesses dance and make music in the left foreground. Their sheep turn their backs on them. A ruined temple impends over a river. The evening mist rises over a golden, enchanted landscape, and the great bay bends away into the distance.

The view has been identified, not entirely convincingly, as the coast near Naples. The painting appears to be the prime version of a subject of which Wilson made other versions, including those in the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Graves Art Gallery. A detail of the shepherds and shepherdesses formerly in the Madan collection is now in the Ashmolean Museum. Yesterday's price was five times Christie's estimate. The underbidder was Agnew's.

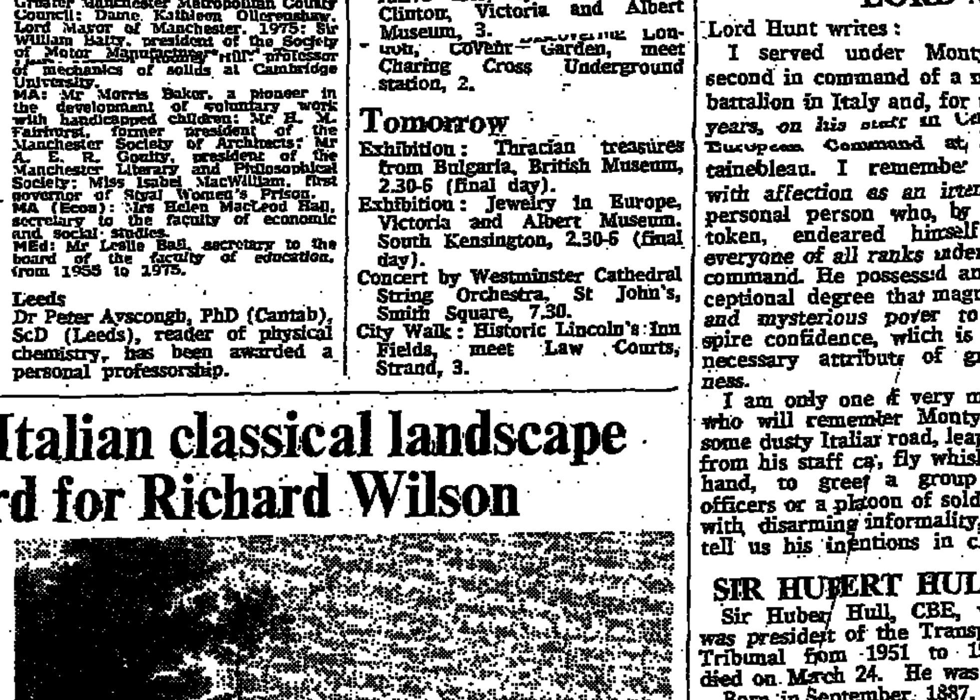
Thomas Patch's marvellously shrewd and unkind caricature of a party of English dilettanti at Florence in the 1760s was bought for £20,900 by Samuel Patch, a descendant and for many years chief sales clerk at Sotheby's. It shows a jolly party of debauchees and grotesques, who were identified with more care for historical accuracy than charity by their contemporaries. One of them is said to be James Boswell, who visited Florence in 1765.

The sale fetched a total of £532,752, with a tenth of the lots bought in.

Meanwhile, at Quaglino's the two-day claret "sale of the century" fetched a total of £901,500. The top price of the day was £900 for three cases of Haut-Brion 1955, the highest paid since the château went into the beaded bubble business in the Middle Ages.

Sotheby's made £56,779 from a sale of Old Master drawings. The top price of £13,200 was paid by an anonymous buyer for Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo's symbolically sarcastic drawing of two Venetian ladies in squawking conversation, with a parrot on the table, and a young man beside them holding another parrot. At Sotheby's sale of furniture and ship models three exquisitely modelled miniature eighteenth-century men-o'-war fetched £10,450.

A nineteenth-century Russian silver and enamelled tea set, which the owner had insured for £800, was sold for £5,200 to an Iranian buyer at Phillips's sale of silver. The 14-piece set in a fitted oak case was by Sazykov of Moscow, 1894, and had been brought out of Tzarist Russia by its owners. The Charles II gilt two-handled cup and cover illustrated in The Times yesterday fetched £6,200.



A detail from Richard Wilson's Italian landscape, showing shepherds and shepherdesses dancing and making music.

25 years ago

From The Times of Wednesday, March 28, 1951.

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, March 27.—General MacArthur's offer last Friday to confer in the field with the commander-in-chief of the enemy forces to discuss a possible truce may in the end—thanks to the impropriety of its timing—have useful results. It has at last awakened Washington up and made it impossible for the State and Defence departments to continue to let him have his head.

The State Department yesterday asked the Secretary of Defence to prevent the general from making pronouncements on political and diplomatic subjects, and the joint Chiefs of Staff instructed him that in future all such statements must be approved by Washington before being issued. Nobody here knew anything was coming on Friday until the text was released in Tokyo.

Science report

Batteries: Turbulence observed

The design of the familiar lead-acid battery used in cars could be in for some changes in the light of an experiment, reported in Nature, in which the motion of the electrolyte liquid has been made visible using a laser. Quite violent movement of the liquid occurs when more than a certain critical current is drawn from a battery, as might be expected, and the scientists involved, Drs J. Auerbach, B. Gavish and S. Reich, of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel, say that being able to examine those liquid motions in detail will help designers to work out the extent to which the performance of a lead-acid battery is impaired or restricted.

Dr Auerbach and his colleagues set up a special lead-acid battery in a transparent box so that laser light could be shone through it. They also set the two electrodes (one made of lead oxide and the other of lead as in a "real" battery) horizontal rather than vertical, which proved the most convenient arrangement.

When light from an argon laser is shone through that arrangement, a pattern of light and dark areas is formed which can be projected on to a screen and photographed. That is possible because different parts of the electrolyte have different densities, so the light waves travelling through neighbouring parts of the liquid get slightly out of step with each other. If there are an exact number of wavelengths out of step they will reinforce each other and generate a bright patch, whereas otherwise they will produce a dimmer patch because the waves will partly cancel out each other.

The density differences arise because of the reactions that take place in the battery as it discharges. At the positive electrode, for example, lead oxide is turned into lead sulphate and water, whereas at the negative electrode lead is simply turned into lead sulphate.

That means that the concentration of sulphuric acid (which goes to form the sulphate) and hence the electrolyte density will vary from a relatively low value near the electrode surfaces where the acid is being consumed to a maximum somewhere between them. That maximum will be closer to the negative electrode, because the water given off from the positive electrode will dilute the acid more there.

When current is being drained quickly from the battery, acid is consumed so rapidly at the electrodes that a layer of particularly low density (that is, chiefly water) forms near the positive electrode, with a region of quite high density above it. As the current drawn is increased, there is a tendency to form pillars of upward and downward flow: the less heavy, lower, layer tends to rise and the upper layer to fall. At higher currents still, that quite regular pattern gives way to confused turbulence.

What is not yet clear is the extent to which that sequence of events curtails the maximum battery life that can be achieved or mars its capability to deliver high currents. If it turns out that the turbulence has a significant effect on battery performance, then perhaps the new technique will play a useful role in designing and testing better kinds of electrode.

By Nature-Times News Service.

Source: Nature, 260 311, March 25, 1976.

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Services Tomorrow: Fourth Sunday in Lent

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC, 8; M, 10.30, Rev M. Moxon, TD and Jub (Howells—Collegium Regale); HC, 11.30 (Stanford in C), Int, God be in my head (Radcliffe); E, 3.15, Rev P. A. Lunn, Mag and ND (Gibbons—second), A, The Lord is my Shepherd (Berkeley).

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: HC, 8; M, 10.30, TD (Stanford in C), Sicut cervus (Palestrina), Canon E. G. Knapp-Fisher; Sung Eucharist, 11.40, O salutaris Hostia, No 2 (Elgar), Poland in C; E, 3 (Darke in F), Like as the hart (Howells), Rt Rev P. H. E. Goodrich, L, 6.30, Rev N. Collins.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus, Accepta Calisti Munera (Palestrina), A, Hear my prayer (Purcell), Rev Dr W. Carr; Choral Evening Prayer, 4 (Stanford in A), A, Hymn to the Virgin (Britten), Canon P. Penwarden.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: HC 8.30; M, 11.15, A, My soul, there is a country (Parry), Canon R. S. O. Stevens.

THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY (public welcomed): MP, 11.15, Ben (Naylor), Canon E. Young, A, Like as the Hart (Howells); HC, 12.30.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich (public welcomed): HC, 8.30, 12.15; MP, 11, the Chaplain.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL (public invited), entry via Lincoln's Inn Fields gateway: M, 11.30, Canon R. Tydeman, A, O turn away mine eyes (Boyce).

HM TOWER OF LONDON: HC, 9.15; M, 11, Jub (Jackson), A, Drop, drop, slow tears (Leighton), Archdeacon of Canterbury.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC, 8.30; MP, 11.15, Ben (Sumsion in B flat), Jub (Wesley in F), Mot, Super Flumina Babylonis (Palestrina), the Master.

ROYAL HOSPITAL, Chelsea (public admitted): HC, 8.30 and noon; Parade Service, 11, A, Lord, let me know mine end (Greene), Rev O. S. Hollh.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) (public welcome): HC, 8.30, 12.15; MP, 11, Resident Chaplain, Ben (Jackson in G), The Lord is my shepherd (Stanford); E, 3.30, Rev G. R. Renowden (Wood in E flat, No 2), Call to remembrance (Farrant).

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace (public welcomed): M, 11, TD (Vaughan Williams in G), A, For I went with the multitude (Aston); E, 3.30, Int, Call to remembrance (Farrant), Mag and ND (Walmisley in D minor), A, I sat down under his shadow (Bairstow).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: Sung Eucharist, 11, Rev M. Perkins.

ALL SAINTS', Margaret Street: LM, 8 and 5.30; HM, 11, Rev D. S. Painter (Mozart in B flat); E and B, 6, Rev J. Slater (Gibbons, second service).

CHELSEA PARISH CHURCH, Sydney Street: HC, 8.15, 12.10; Parish Communion, 10; M, 11, Preb H. Loasby; E, 6.30, discussion.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist, 11, Rev J. B. Gaskell, Collegium Regale (Howells), My soul doth magnify the Lord (Purcell).

HOLY SEPULCHRE, Holborn Viaduct: Sung Eucharist, 9.15, Rev R. Tydeman.

HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road: HC, 8 and 12.15; Family Communion, 9, Rev R. H. Turvey; M, 11, Rev C. Patterson; E, 6, Rev M. Kemp.

HOLY TRINITY, Kingsway: S. E, 6.30; Rev Lord Soper.

ST ALBAN'S, Holborn: LM, 8 and 5.30 pm; SM, 9.30; HM, 11, Organ Solo Mass (Mozart), The Lord hath been mindful (Wesley), Rev J. Skeggs; E and B, 6.

ST BARTHOLOMEW-THE-GREAT PRIORY (AD 1123): HC, 9; M, 11, Lamentations (Bairstow), A, Emendemus (Byrd), and E, 6.30 (Plainsong arr Gibbons), A, Through thy submitting (Rodney Bennett), the Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street: HC, 8.30; M and HC, 11, Rev D. Morgan, Ben (Jackson in G); E, 6.30, Mag and ND (Wood in C).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist, 11 (Ley in E minor), Rev W. M. Atkins, Mot, Crucifixus (Lotti).

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High Street: HC, 8, 12.10; MP, 11, Rev H. S. Goodwin; E, 6.30, Rev G. E. Taylor.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: HC, 8.15; Eucharist, 9.15, Rev J. L. W. Robinson; MP, 11, Dr Hubert; E, 6, Rev W. P. Baddeley.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster: HC, 12.15 and 6.45; 11, Ben (Sanford), A, The Lord is my shepherd, Canon D. L. Edwards; E, 6, Mag and ND (Watson in E), A, The Lord is my Shepherd (Schubert).

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: Family Communion, 9.45, Rev A. Couch; M, 11.15, the Vicar; Choral Evensong, 4.15; E, 6.30, Rev R. Swan.

ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington: HC, 8, 12.30; Sung Eucharist, 9.30, Rev A. F. Davis; MP, 11.15, Rev J. P. Hill, The Lord is my Shepherd (Schubert); E, 6.30, Rev J. M. V. Willmington, Brother James' Air (arr. Jacob).

ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH: HC, 8, 11, Rev P. Harding, Missa Festiva (Bretchaninov), Mot, Laudate Dominum (Mozart); E, 6.30.

ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square: HC, 8.15, 12.15; M, 11, Rev D. Lucas; 6, Rev E. G. H. Saunders.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge: HC, 8, 9; SE, 11, Bishop of London; Choral E, 6.

ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street: 11, Rev R. R. Townley; 6.30, Bishop Goodwin Hudson.

ST PAUL'S, Bedford Street, Covent Garden: SE, 11, Rev E. Blennerhassett.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist, 11 (Darke in F), Lord for thy tender mercies' sake (Hilton), Rev D. B. Tillyer.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Chelsea: HC, 8; M, 11; E, 6.30, Rev O. R. Clarke.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road: LM, 7, 8; HM, 11, Missa O Quam Gloriosum (Vittoria), Rev H. Moore; E and B, 6, Rev R. Hayes.

ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, SM, 11, Canon ffrench-Beytagh.

ST COLUMBA'S (Church of Scotland), Pont Street: 11, Rev Dr J. Fraser McLuskey; 6.30, Rev P. S. Kirby.

CROWN COURT CHURCH (Church of Scotland), Russell Street, Covent Garden: 11.15 and 6.30, Rev J. Miller Scott.

THE ORATORY: SM, 11 (Messe Basse (Fauré); V and B, 3.30, Mot, Laborari in gemitu (Caldara).

ASSUMPTION, Warwick St: SM, 8, 9, 10, 11 (Latin), 12, 4, 5 and 6 pm.

ST PATRICK'S, Soho Square: SM, 6 pm, Missa Parce Domine (Plum), Laudate Dominum (Schmitt).

CHURCH OF OUR LADY, St John's Wood: SM (Latin), 10.45, Missa in honorem S. Josephi (Peeters), Super flumina (Palestrina).

THE JESUIT CHURCH, Farm Street: LM, 7, 8, 9, 10, 4.15, 6.30, and 7.30 pm; SM, 11; 12 noon, Fr P. Blake.

REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (United Reformed), Tavistock Place: 11 and 6.30, Dr Daniel Jenkins.

CENTRAL HALL, Westminster: 11 and 6.30, Dr M. Barnett.

KINGSWAY HALL (West London Mission): 11 and 6.30.

CITY TEMPLE, Holborn Viaduct: EC, 11 and 6.30, Dr Kenneth Slack.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate: 11 and 6.30, Dr J. R. de Witt.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, meeting at St Martin's, Ludgate Hill: 11, Rev A. Birtwhistle.

FRIENDS MEETING FOR WORSHIP (Quakers), 52 St Martin's Lane: 11.

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SPORT

Racing

Hide seeks his fourth success in Doncaster numbers game

By Michael Seely

Galiano, trained by Barry Hills at Lambourn, is my selection to give Edward Hide his fourth success in the Irish Sweeps Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster this afternoon. Once again the vital factor of the draw on the Town Moor straight mile seems sure to play its annual part in deciding the destination of this rich prize. The ground nearest the stand rails always seems to ride the faster and consequently the high numbers are much favoured.

In the past 11 seasons only two horses lower than 10 have succeeded, Sovereign Bill in 1972, and Foggy Bell in 1969. This year Galiano, the 1974 Lincoln winner, Quizair, Rhodomantade, who won the Victoria Cup last season, and The Goldstone are suitable types for the race who have been allotted high numbers. Galiano is a smart handicapper who finished fourth in this race to Bronze Hill in 1973. In 1974 he won the Victoria Cup; last season Galiano ran only twice. He turned in a performance full of promise when narrowly beaten by Step Ahead at Kempton Park, but ran disappointingly when made favourite for the Royal Hunt Cup on the strength of this effort.

Although Galiano is seven years old, he is undeniably well handicapped on the balance of his form, and has given his trainer every satisfaction in his preparation. Another seven-year-old, Quizair, seems likely to go extremely well. If Quizair can find the ability which carried him to success in a handicap at York last September, he will be difficult to beat. Our Newmarket correspondent speaks highly of Quizair's homework with his stable companion; Royal Match, who has recently been supported to win next week's Liverpool Spring Cup.

The Goldstone is trained by Bill Wightman, who has provided the runner-up in this race on no fewer than three occasions. The four-year-old showed much improved [illegible] autumn, but is said to be at his best on soft ground. All the money in the ante-post market had been for Wightman's other runner, Bell-Tent, the mount of Patrick Eddery. Bell-Tent went from strength to strength last season when he won three handicaps, but his No 11 draw cannot have helped his chance.

The same applies to the ante-post favourite, the topweight Golden Aim who, although successful only in a maiden event at Chester last summer, ran really well in his first two races, particularly when beaten under four lengths by Grundy in the Irish 2,000 Guineas. The class horse of the race, Golden Aim has been well backed to give Lester Piggott his first Lincoln winner and to repeat for his trainer, Peter Robinson, the triumph he gained with Sovereign Bill. But his low draw at three must have dealt a blow to his connexions.

Other well-fancied animals to have been unlucky in this respect are Halicas, Janes Joker and the Cambridgeshire winner, Lottogift. Janes Joker, an admirably game and consistent colt, is undeniably the pick of this afternoon's handicap. Whatever his fate today, he will be one to follow this season. Although Quizair, a confirmed front runner, is the ideal type for the hurly-burly of the Lincoln, I expect to see Hide nursing Galiano for a burst of speed in the last furlong and a half. I hope to see the combination prove too sharp for Quizair and Rhodomantade.

Hills and Hide can also win the Sunny Bar Stakes with Konrad. Konrad failed to win a race last season, but showed some good form, particularly when running Treasury Bond to threequarters of a length in a competitive nursery at the St Leger meeting. Referendum, third to All Hope in a high-class maiden race at the same fixture, is an obvious danger, as is that admirably consistent filly, Venus of Stretham, who took seven races for Gerry Blum last season. But Konrad must be the choice.

The Northern Handicap Stakes may be best left to Peter Easterby's Alverton, who wound up last season by winning at Teesside Park. Recently successful over hurdles at Uttoxeter, Alverton may outstay Tornado Prince. In the Brocklesby Stakes, the first good-class two-year-old race of the season, Easterby runs Jason, a half-brother by Mummy's Pet of Spanish Warrior. Richard Hannon's Tribal Chief is another tip for this race, but I am siding with Joan's Wish, trained by the Barnstable meat wholesaler, John Hill, whose Mia Saint ran out an easy winner of the selling race at Doncaster yesterday.

It generally pays to follow a stable that strikes early form, and for the same reason I am going for the trainer's High Top filly, May Bride, in the concluding West Riding Two-Year-Old Fillies' Stakes. The principal threat may come from Tommy Fairhurst's Perkasa, a half-sister by Huntercombe of the useful sprinter, Singing Scot. Fairhurst started the season on a good note yesterday when he won the most valuable race of the afternoon, the Batthyany Handicap Stakes, with the well-handicapped Coded Love. Despite edging to the left entering the last furlong, Coded Love gave a decisive beating to Urray Harry. This victory gave Clive Eccleston his first success as retained jockey to Fairhurst, who said that his smart filly, Woodsome, has wintered well and will have her first outing of 1976 in the Ladbroke Nell Gwyn Stakes at the Craven meeting.

The other trainer to begin the season on a high note was Guy Harwood, who landed a double with Fighting Brave in the first round of the Crown Plus Two Apprentice Championship, and with Grinling Gibbons. Harwood said that Fighting Brave has been working well with his Lincoln Handicap candidates, Berkeley Square and Pagos Boy, but he could not fancy the pair from their low draw. Grinling Gibbons defied 9st 6lb in fine style to win the Doncaster Spring Handicap Stakes by five lengths.

Ancholia is [g]ood enough although [s]he merit is difficult t[o] measure

From Pierre Guil[l]or
French Racing C[o]rresponder[t]
Paris, March 26

Ancholia, one of France Butin's strong ca[n]didates s[h]ld be good enough [t]o win the [Pr]ix Pénélope at St C[lo]ud tomorrow. It is difficult t[o] estimate [h]er merit. Although [s]he won [b]oth her races last yea[r] the first [w]as a minor event at Vichy and the other in Italy.

Ridden by Ton[y] Murray, he won the Group I[I] Premio [Or]mello at Milan [b]y six lengths, beating their bes[t] fillies. [Th]is performance earne[d] her the [h]ighest rating of any [o]ther sex in the Italian Free Han[di]cap, but he was placed 22lb [b]ehind the op colt Northern Spr[in]g.

Six of her [o]pponents have already raced this year and four of them, Khalida, Princess Flor, Low Castle and Pawnese are winners. Khalida who won over course and distance three weeks ago should prove the best of them. Pawnese won the valuable Prix la Camargo over a mile on the same afternoon by a head with Ricabie third and Frenetique fourth, but she was a rather fortunate victor as the runner-up Anne Palatine was hanging throughout the final furlong.

Loveliest could be a better candidate for a place. Although, like Ancholia, she has not raced since October this American-bred ran well in useful company and won the third of her four races, the Prix de Sablonville, at Longchamps in September. I expect her to give Ancholia most to do.

PRIX PENELOPE (Group I: 3-y-o fillies: £11,062: 1m 2½f)

00-1 Khalida (A Khan), F Mathet, 8-12 .... H. Samani
0321- Lady and Co (J. Doibes), M. Bonaventure, 8-12 .... G. Rivases
20110- Kashmiroa (T. Fulke), R. Carver, 8-12 .... M. Philipperon
32401- Janylow (Mrs J. Holley), E. Bartholomew, 8-12 .... J. Taillard
2321-4 Frenetique (J. Henosciarn), M. Zilber, 8-12 .... F. Head
10- Edition Nouvelle (J. Biold), B. Secly, 8-12 .... E. Lellouche
1-3 Ricabie (J. Puerari), G. Delloye, 8-12 .... W. Pyers
00024-1 Princesse Flor (Mrs G. andor), G. Serpereau, 8-12 .... A. Perrotta
0010- Loveliest (Sangster), A. Paul, 8-12 .... A. Gibert
11- Ancholia (Ternynck), F. Boutin, 8-12 .... P. Paquet
04-1 Low Castle (A. Weisweiller), E. Chevallier du Fau, 8-12 .... J. C. Desaint
24-1 Pawnese (D. Wildenstein), A. Penna, 8-12 .... Y. Saint-Martin

3-1 Pawnese, 7-1 Ancholia, [4]-1 Khalida, 7-1 Lady and Co, Ricabie, 12-1 Loveliest, 14-1 Princesse Flor, Low Castle, 16-1 Edition Nouvelle, Princesse Flor, 33-1 Janylow, Kashmiroa.

Aintree runner goes lame

Ernie Wiltshire [is] lame and may not run in the [Gr]and National. The 10-year-old was Fred Winter's No 1 hope of a th[ird] training success in the Nation[al] for which he is currently quote[d] at 25-1. Partnered for the fir[st] time by his big race rider, [Jo]hn Francome, at Worcester on [Th]ursday, Ernie Wiltshire won for [th]e fourth time running but was fo[un]d lame in his off hind when [r]eturning to Winter's Lambourn stables.

Winter said yes[ter]day "Unless considerable improvement is made by Monday, Ernie [W]iltshire must be considered a [v]ery doubtful runner for the Gr[an]d National."

Ernie Wiltshire, f[or]merly trained in Northumberland, was first prize in a competition run by a tobacco company, and was won by Noel Clark, of Croydon, for the price of a few ounces of pipe tobacco.

The Irish trainer, Jim Dreaper, said yesterday that the National topweight, Colebridge, had been upset by a bad journey back from Cheltenham last week and is not definite for Aintree. "The gelding has not been himself for the past week. He had an upsetting experience because of train delays on the journey home from Cheltenham. As of now there must be a doubt whether I send him to Aintree. I'll make the decision as soon as possible.

Leading Lady's turn has come

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Today's race meeting at Newbury is the last that will be held there under National Hunt rules until the autumn. After today, flat racing will hold the stage for the next seven months and the next meeting at Newbury in two weeks time, promises to be a riveting affair. It is already known that Wollow and Pasty, the current favourities for the 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas, are due to reappear there after their winter's rest in the Greenham Stakes and the Fred Darling Stakes, respectively. Also on the programme that weekend is the £12,000 John Porter Stakes, which invariably attracts a strong field of older horses to do battle over a mile and a half.

The main race there today is the Greenham Group Handicap Hurdle which has attracted 22 runners and looks as difficult to solve as the Lincoln at Doncaster in spite of the fact that there is a winter's worth of form to fall back upon. With luck, the name of the winner will be found among a short list comprising Little Catworth and his stable companion Linsky, both of whom have already won over this course and distance this season, Leading Lady, Manzoni, and Smile of Fortune. Leading Lady is my selection. She sidestepped the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham to wait for this and time may show that that was shrewd judgment on the part of her trainer, Pat Taylor.

She appears to have a much better chance of winning this prize than she would have done had she been sent to Cheltenham. What is more, she is fresh. Nobody knows Leading Lady better than Tony Carroll who has ridden her in all her four races this winter and with him claiming his 5lb allowance, Leading Lady will carry 10st 13lb. That strikes me as a handy weight and possibly a winning one, too. Leading Lady has already beaten Little Catworth and Comet Koboutek once this season at Towcester and what she has achieved once she should manage again. She will be meeting Little Catworth on 9lb better terms than when they clashed before and it is difficult to visualize Comet Koboutek making up 18 lengths on Leading Lady even though he will be meeting her on 10lb better terms.

Manzoni cannot be left out of the reckoning because he ran well up to a point in the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham considering that he had been off the course since January. Smile of Fortune enters the fray fresh from winning the Select Hurdle at Sandown Park, the result of which the handicapper was able to take into account when he published the weights for today's race. Smile of Fortune has been set to meet Princely Mark, his victim that day, on 5lb worse terms.

But when weighing up their respective chances it would be as well to remember that the Select Hurdle was one of the more remarkable races seen this season. Smile of Fortune appeared not to have even a slight chance of being placed, let alone winning when turning into the straight. He was last and going badly, several lengths behind the leaders. But once he met the rising ground in the straight he suddenly began to race in earnest and slowly but surely passed horse after horse. Even so it still looked improbable that he could catch Princely Mark as they approached the last flight. But catch him he did and he won in the end going away.

It is difficult to know what to make of Smile of Fortune who, Josh Gifford says, could make a Gold Cup horse—Cheltenham that is, not Ascot—one day. What is clear though, is that he can ill afford to give a filly of Leading Lady's proven ability the sort of start in the straight that he gave Princely Mark at Sandown. Some will fancy Virginia Drive but in my opinion he has no chance of beating Linsky.

The handicapper gave Virginia Drive a stone less in the Long Handicap than that which he will carry this afternoon but the rules state that the minimum weight must be 10 st on the day, so his weight has been raised from 9 st to that mark.

Otter Way, the point-to-pointer who ran in the Cheltenham Gold Cup and finished seventh, turns out again for the Betterton Steeplechase for which the Cathcart Challenge Cup winner Mickley Seabright is also an acceptor. Before he won what was the final race of the National Hunt festival Mickley Seabright won the Forbra Challenge Cup at Ludlow by beating Master Upham who had won his previous race at Huntington. Mickley Seabright's form looks good enough and he is preferred to Otter Way. Summer Dance won the Jack of Newbury Steeplechase well enough at the last meeting but his opposition was very weak that day.

French Colonist, who finished 15 lengths behind Mickley Seabright at Cheltenham after winning his first two races of the season at Newbury, may not be able to cope with Smilbo Smaggins in the Jack Spraggon Hunters' Steeplechase. Smilbo Smaggins has won all his races this season and recently beat Greystoke Pillar by 15 lengths at Sandown.

Toy Flag has fallen in both his steeplechases but granted a clear round at Devon and Exeter the Drake Novices' Steeplechase could be a case of third time lucky as far as he is concerned. He was still in with a chance of beating the redoubtable Canasta Lad when he fell two fences from home in his first steeplechase at Windsor in January. Next he seemed to have a race at his mercy at Wolverhampton a month later whe he again tripped up three fences from home. In the circumstances he deserves one more chance.

John Francome won on both his mounts at Devon and Exeter yesterday—Brig and Christmas Candle—in both divisions of the novices hurdle to bring his score to 79—four ahead of Bob Davies. Christmas Candle had plenty to do as Tromso turned for home with a 10 lengths lead but the favourite steadily pulled him back to go ahead on the flat and win by four lengths. Christmas Candle will seek his third win in a £1,000 novice event at Liverpool on Grand National day.

STATE OF GOING: Devon and Exeter: Good. Bangor-on-Dee: Good to soft. Newbury: Good to firm. Hexham: Soft. Doncaster: Good. Leicester (Monday): Good.

Doncaster programme

[*Television (IBA)*: 1.45, 2.15 *and* 2.55 *races*]

1.45 WATERDALE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,312: 7f)

101 223330- River Bloom, J. Etherington, 9-7 .... E. Hide 19
103 034240- Golden Zaccle, T. Fairhurst, 9-2 .... C. Eccleston 2
104 011- Truly Yours, S. Hall, 8-12 .... A. Barclay 12
105 321040- Pitboy, P. Carr, 8-9 .... P. Eddery 9
106 01020- Ginger Knit, B. Hills, 8-8 .... R. Street 3
107 40030- Two Swallows, G. Toft, 8-7 .... C. Dwyer 1
108 0120- Boy Marvel, L. Shedden, 8-6 .... — 20
109 0300- Glorified, J. Bethell, 8-6 .... B. Raymond 18
110 3032-10 Breathing Exercise, R. Armstrong, 8-5 .... L. Piggott 1
111 130030- Positive Dream, W. Marshall, 8-5 .... R. Marshall 15
112 300-000 Hot Symphony, D. Sasse, 8-4 .... T. Cain 3 6
113 00- Melrose, S. Hall, 8-4 .... E. Johnson 14
114 2343- Loudly, B. Hills, 8-1 .... F. Durr 11
115 000003- Park Walk, W. Wightman, 7-11 .... D. Cullen 4
116 000400- Balustrade, H. Williams, 7-11 .... J. Lynch 7
117 240201- Paper Rich (D), A. Goodwill, 7-11 .... — 13
118 00010- Pot Hunter, J. Hardy, 7-11 .... C. Moss 8
119 200020- Field Marshall, A. Stevens, 7-10 .... S. Perks 6
120 020000- Lorenzo Monaco, H. Williams, 7-9 .... R. Fox 3 21
121 00210- Monk's Chant, P. Robinson, 7-8 .... — 16
122 401330- Likely Boy, R. Bastiman, 7-6 .... — 10

2-1 Breathing Exercise, 5-1 Truly Yours, 6-1 Positive Dream, 8-1 Pitboy, [L]oudly, 10-1 Melrose, 12-1 River Bloom, Ginger Knit, 14-1 Hot Symphony, 16-1 [o]thers.

2.15 BROCKLESBY STAKES (2-y-o: £1,322: 5f)

Caernarvon King, R. Hollinshead, 8-11 .... T. Ives 13
Can-U-Bid, K. Payne, 8-11 .... A. Cousins 11
Cawston's Clown, N. Adam, 8-11 .... B. Raymond 6
Court House, W. Marshall, 8-11 .... R. Marshall 14
Dam Water, T. Fairhurst, 8-11 .... C. Eccleston 7
Downholme, Denys Smith, 8-11 .... A. Barclay 8
Flaming Temper, B. Swift, 8-11 .... G. Lewis 3
Forlorn Scot, W. C. Watts, 8-11 .... G. Oldroyd 1
Ingoldsby, G. Blum, 8-11 .... T. McKeown 5
Jason, M. H. Easterby, 8-11 .... M. Birch 17
Joans Wish, C. Hill, 8-11 .... E. Hide 12
Petrograd, N. Callaghan, 8-11 .... J. Lynch 9
Pick Your Own, S. Cousins, 8-11 .... J. Seagrave 16
Red Johnnie, A. Goodwill, 8-11 .... C. Moss 2
Solchella, R. Stubbs, 8-11 .... — 4
Treble Jump, W. Wharton, 8-11 .... F. Durr 15
Tribal King, R. Hannon, 8-11 .... — 10
Westbrook, L. Shedden, 8-11 .... — 9

9-2 Downholme, 5-1 Flaming Temper, 6-1 Jason, 13-2 Tribal King, 8-1 Petrograd, Red Johnnie, 10-1 Treble Jump, 12-1 Can-U-Bid, Court House, 14-1 others.

2.55 LINCOLN HANDICAP (£8,030: 1m)

1 400100- Golden Aim, P. Robinson, 4-9-7 .... L. Piggott 3
3 020000- Halicas (C), C. Brittain, 4-9-7 .... W. Carson 7
3 001020- Master Pelard (D), M. Jarvis, 4-9-3 .... B. Raymond 16
4 121100- My Hussar (D), J. Sutcliffe, 4-9-3 .... P. Cheese 5 31
5 20- Galiano (D), B. Hills, 7-9-3 .... E. Hide 24
6 301100- Lottogift (C) (D), D. Hanley, 5-9-2 .... R. Wernham 5 9
7 041024- Rhodomantade (D), P. Makin, 5-9-0 .... G. Baxter 19
8 0221- Immortal Knight (D), M. H. Easterby, 6-8-12 .... M. Birch 26
9 211130- Bustello (D), M. W. Easterby, 4-8-12 .... A. Murray 18
10 310230- Kings Bonus (CD), R. Hollinshead, 5-8-10 .... K. Lewis 5 10
12 020020- Blues Again, K. Ivory, 4-8-10 .... W. Somerville 7 13
13 004301- Janes Joker (D), R. Hollinshead, 4-8-10 .... T. Ives 5
14 434100- Quizair (CD), R. Jarvis, 7-8-9 .... M. Thomas 20
14 032021- Yamadori (D), R. Houghton, 4-8-8 .... F. Morby 12
15 410320- Gracious Melody (D), Denys Smith, 6-8-7 .... L. Charnock 5 4
17 30400- Dawlish, E. Cousins, 5-8-7 .... N. Crowther 5 2
18 024000- Berkeley Square, G. Harwood, 4-8-6 .... G. Starkey 6
19 411201- Bell-Tent, W. Wightman, 5-8-6 .... P. Eddery 11
20 04110- The Hertford (C) (D), B. Swift, 5-8-6 .... G. Lewis 14
21 041131- Pagos Boy (D), G. Harwood, 4-8-5 .... E. Eldin 1
22 110004- Baronet, N. Callaghan, 4-8-5 .... J. Lynch 3
23 120210- Miss Filbert, D. Keith, 4-8-3 .... F. Durr 8
24 212342- Ballad Singer, R. Akehurst, 6-8-1 .... D. McKay 25
25 420300- Marennes Blue, G. Balding, 5-8-1 .... E. Johnson 17
26 201004- Top Level (CD), N. Callaghan, 4-8-0 .... G. Duffield 15
27 002101- The Goldstone (D), W. Wightman, 4-7-13 .... D. Cullen 23

6-1 Golden Aim, 13-2 Bell-Tent, 8-1 Galiano, 10-1 Rhodomantade, 12-1 Halicas, The Hertford, 16-1 Quizair, Berkeley Square, 18-1 Yamadori, Lottogift, 20-1 Bustello, My Hussar, 25-1 Janes Joker, The Goldstone, 28-1 Baronet, Kings Bonus, 33-1 others.

FORM: Golden Aim, see Janes Joker. Previously (9-0) won ½l, 12l from Maria Pearl (9-0) and Rustic River (9-0). Chester, Aug 30. 7f 122yds. Good to firm. 3 ran. Galiano (9-3) 4th to Ardoon (8-5). Ascot, June 18. Good to firm. 18 ran. Previously (9-11) beaten head by Step Ahead (9-12). Kempton, May 24. 7f. Good to firm. 10 ran. Lottogift, see Jane's Joker. Previously (8-2) won neck from Dance All Night (8-3) and [Jan]ot's Delight (9-2), with Janes Joker (9-13) 4th, 2¼l back, My Hussar (8-4) [4]th, Rhodomantade (8-9) 9th and Master Pelard (8-7), Bustello (8-1), Berkeley Square (7-10) and Yamadori (7-8) all unplaced. Newmarket, Oct 1m 1f. Good. 36 ran. Immortal Knight (8-0) won 1½l, 2½l from Wandhead (9-7) and Ardoon (8-3). Ayr, [Ma]y 10. 1m. Soft. 6 ran. Kings Bonus (8-8) 5th, beaten just over 5½l by [Do]ubt Me Not (8-6). Doncaster, Oct [...] 6f. Good. 11 ran. Janes Joker (7-6) [...] neck, 4l from Jumping Hill (8-7) and Swanee River (8-8), with Lottogift (8-4), 5½l back. Golden Aim (8-9) 9th and Halicas (8-9) 11th. Haydock, Nov 1. 1m 40yds. Soft. 11 ran. Quizair, unplaced in last two outings. Previously (8-10) won 1l, head from Step Ahead (9-8) and Summer Knave (8-5), with Gracious Melody (8-3) 9th. York, Sept 4. 1m. Good to firm. 11 ran. Bell-Tent (8-4) won 2½l, same from Outrage (7-7) and Makinian (8-13). Brighton, Sept 2. 1¼m. Firm. 6 ran. The Hertford, unplaced at Newmarket on last outing. Previously (8-7) won ½l, 1½l from Acquaint (9-7) and Court Lane (8-6), with Quizair (9-13) 7th. Goodwood, Sept 30. 1m. Heavy. 7 ran. Pagos Boy (8-13) won 1l, ½l from Tudor Lord (8-11) and Crown Major (8-3). Windsor, Aug 25. 1m 70yds. Good to firm. 11 ran. Miss Filbert, unplaced at Ayr on final outing. Previously (8-7) won neck, 2½l from Unicorn's Fancy (6-1) and Bloody Tower (8-5). Newmarket, Aug 23. 7f. Good. 10 ran. The Goldstone (8-6) won 1l, 3l from Ascot Royale (8-8) and Messenger Boy (8-13). Leicester, Nov 4. 7f. Good. 20 ran.

3.30 SUNNY BAR STAKES (3-y-o: £1,268: 1m)

1 321112- Gemina, M. H. Easterby, 9-8 .... M. Thomas 7
3 127113- Venus of Stretham, G. Blum, 9-5 .... T. Lappin 8
4 421443- Harrys Fizzale, K. Payne, 9-4 .... J. Seagrave 13
7 400420- Glenmere, A. Jarvis, 8-9 .... L. Charnock 5 1
8 00- Glentark, Denys Smith, 8-9 .... W. Carson 4
9 202030- Grove's Boy, C. Brittain, 8-9 .... E. Hide 11
10 42020- Konrad, B. Hills, 8-9 .... R. Marshall 3
11 00- Life's Ambition, W. Marshall, 8-9 .... A. Barclay 9
12 034- Referendum, S. Hall, 8-9 .... — 6
13 — Same as Tom, P. Farrell, 8-9 .... P. Eddery 10
16 002- Welsh Reason, P. Walwyn, 8-9 .... D. Gray 5
17 00043- Copper, E. Collingwood, 8-6 .... G. Lewis 12
18 4- Tutu, B. Hobbs, 8-6 .... — 2

15-8 Welsh Reason, 9-2 Konrad, 11-2 Tutu, 8-1 Venus of Stretham, 10-1 Gemina, 12-1 Grove's Boy, Referendum, 16-1 Harrys Fizzale, 20-1 others.

4.0 NORTHERN HANDICAP (£1,014: 1¼m)

1 000400- Horseguards (CD), P. Walwyn, 4-10-0 .... P. Eddery 4
2 422203- Bigribo, M. Jarvis, 5-9-10 .... B. Raymond 3
3 311400- Kafka, Denys Smith, 6-9-6 .... L. Charnock 5 7
4 423144- Paddy Jack (D), G. Smyth, 5-9-2 .... G. Lewis 6
7 001200- Mr Fordette (D), G. Harwood, 4-8-13 .... G. Starkey 10
8 2000- Lepidus, P. Rohan, 6-8-10 .... J. Seagrave 2
9 0000- Hardy Turk (D), S. Hall, 5-8-1 .... E. Johnson 9
10 041- Alverton, M. H. Easterby, 6-8-0 .... — 1
11 44- Ruddy Drake, W. Marshall, 5-8-0 .... R. Marshall 8
12 022103- Tornado Prince, N. Callaghan, 4-8-0 .... J. Lynch 5

3-1 Alverton, 4-1 Ruddy Drake, 9-2 Horseguards, 6-1 Paddy Jack, 8-1 Bigribo, 10-1 Kafka, 12-1 Tornado Prince, 14-1 Mr Fordette, 16-1 others.

4.30 WEST RIDING STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £1,242: 5f)

Chamber Maid, R. Houghton, 8-8 .... F. Morby 12
Devil's Moon, J. Leigh, 8-8 .... — 8
Gipsy Maramick, R. Hollinshead, 8-8 .... — 13
Hunnylyn, C. Brittain, 8-8 .... W. Carson 14
Joshia's Lady, W. Stephenson, 8-8 .... D. Ryan 7
May Bride, C. Hill, 8-8 .... E. Hide 9
Miss Scandalous, D. Weeden, 8-8 .... G. Sexton 4
Mofida, B. Hills, 8-8 .... R. Street 10
Perkasa, T. Fairhurst, 8-8 .... C. Eccleston 1
Ribbleston, W. C. Watts, 8-8 .... G. Oldroyd 5
Sole Agent, B. Swift, 8-8 .... G. Lewis 6
Star Attention, P. Farrell, 8-8 .... P. Rutter 7 2
The Mustard Club, G. Blum, 8-8 .... C. Moss 11
Warmspuns Joy, J. Hardy, 8-8 .... — 3

7-2 Mofida, 4-1 Chamber Maid, Sole Agent, 5-1 Hunnylyn, 13-2 May Bride, 10-1 Perkasa, 12-1 Warmspun Joy, 14-1 others.

Doncaster selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.45 Breathing Exercise. 2.15 Joan's Wish. 2.55 GALIANO is specially recommended. 3.30 Konrad. 4.0 Alverton. 4.30 May Bride.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
1.45 Breathing Exercise. 2.15 Court House. 2.55 Quizair. 3.30 Tutu. 4.0 Tornado Prince. 4.30 The Mustard Club.

Hexham selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.30 Grey Granite. 2.0 More Wayward. 2.30 Any Second. 3.0 DORLESA is specially recommended. 3.30 Prince of Shoon. 4.0 Sharageen.

Devon and Exeter programme

2.15 FROBISHER HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £306: 2m 40yd)

1 232-141 Castell Memories, Mrs B. Waring, 8-11-10 .... A. Waring 7
3 23410f Cochineal (CD), J. Taplin, 8-11-10 .... Mr G. Edwards 7
5 — Barbary Stag, W. Fisher, 5-11-0 .... R. Linley
4 340303 Bob Bunker, L. Kennard, 7-11-0 .... R. Crank
6 0000-0 Bright Performance, T. Hallett, 5-11-0 .... Mr G. Crosthwaite 7
9 — Cry of Trouble, K. Pipe, 5-11-0 .... M. Reeves 5
11 0- Greendown, T. Forster, 6-11-0 .... —
12 0-0000 Haydon Heath, J. Haine, 6-11-0 .... J. Haine
13 0- Icebreaker, T. Forster, 6-11-0 .... G. Thorner
14 p Kandinsky, O. O'Neill, 6-11-0 .... K. Barnfield
16 — Midshipman Easy, Mrs E. Kennard, 5-11-0 .... P. Richards 7
17 0-24322 Minniegaff, S. Cole, 6-11-0 .... James Guest 5
18 0024f My Sid, Miss S. Morris, 6-11-0 .... N. Wakley
21 04202- Short Sale, G. Bach, 5-11-0 .... G. McNally
24 00 Azania Lad, G. Gadd, 4-10-7 .... C. Brown 5
28 000 Slingwrap, F. Muggeridge, 4-10-7 .... T. Muggeridge

7-4 Castell Memories, 5-1 Cochineal, 9-2 Minniegaff, 5-1 Bob [B]unker, 10-1 My Sid, 12-1 Short Sale, 20-1 others.

2.45 HAWKINS HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m [4]0yd)

1 104f03 High Hatter, J. Perrett, 12-11-7 .... A. Waring
2 0-00000 Blasta Blaze, O. O'Neill, 11-11-6 .... A. Webb
3 040021 My Christine, M. Tate, 6-11-6 .... —
4 0120-10 Eva's Break, Mrs E. Gaze, 14-11-3 .... —
5 20-0240 Mild Cheese, O. O'Neill, 8-10-11 .... —
6 000400 Census, F. Muggeridge, 7-10-10 .... T. Muggeridge
7 000040 John Crocker (CD), M. Pipe, 9-10-9 .... A. Varey
11 140300 *Royal Request, G. Turk, 8-10-5 .... —
12 234000 Sea Picture, T. Gorman, 7-10-5 .... I. Flower
13 00 Holy Knight, W. Williams, 7-10-3 .... —
16 00 Darkness, B. Wise, 8-10-2 .... C. Bowen
17 00-000 Hats Off, W. Musson, 10-10-2 .... —
18 0-00000 Pink Flamingo, J. Tierney, 7-10-1 .... D. Wall
19 0a- Pageant Time, A. Jones, 9-10-1 .... R. Steel
20 00300f Coralsh Valley, L. Thomas, 8-10-0 .... M. Barrett
22 0p-0 May Each Day, W. Tanton, 8-10-0 .... P. Richards
23 s0u Western Tingle, W. Sleeman, 5-10-0 .... —
24 pf-ff0 Larks Poon, G. Francis, 9-10-0 .... —
25 p-00000 Bagoas, J. Haine, 14-10-0 .... C. Brown
26 04-3230 Gold Seal, D. H. Jones, 10-10-0 .... C. Broad
27 004 Miss Fog, Mrs N. Whitfield, 9-10-0 .... C. Gwilliam
29 40-00 Charlie's Gal, W. Dawes, 9-10-0 .... G. Enright
30 040000 [illegible], A. Beach, 10-10-0 .... —
31 005000 Rock Bottom, J. Bradley, 14-10-0 .... C. Jones

11-4 My Christine, 4-1 High Hatter, 11-2 Even Break, 7-1 Darkness, 8-1 John Crocker, 10-1 Mild Cheese, 13-1 Sea Picture, 14-1 Gold Seal, Rock Bottom, 20-1 others.

3.15 TORBAY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £586: 2m 40yd)

1 0f1122 Tinker Boy, D. Kent, 10-12-3 .... P. Haynes
4 200224 Somethings Missing, D. Barons, 8-11-3 .... S. May
5 3422-1f Clifton Fair (C), Mrs E. Kennard, 7-10-10 .... Mr P. Hobbs 5
6 241030 Mighty Marine (CD), J. Bradley, 7-10-9 .... John Williams
8 424233 Marungu (CD), C. Bewicke, 9-10-7 .... R. Champion
9 p3p323 Orient War, S. Pattemore, 13-10-5 .... R. Linley
11 42p0p2 Camp Carson, Mrs L. Dingwall, 9-10-0 .... R. Atkins
13 p0p030 Phillidon, T. Yarnold, 9-10-0 .... R. Hyett

2-1 Somethings Missing, 11-4 Tinker Boy, 9-2 Clifton Fair, 11-2 Orient War, 7-1 Marungu, 8-1 Camp Carson, 16-1 others.

3.45 PELLEW HURDLE (Handicap: £643: 2m 3f)

1 01-1100 Palmeira Square (CD), D. Barons, 7-11-10 .... M. Barrett 7
2 311200 Hit Parade (CD), M. Pipe, 9-11-8 .... —
3 143400 Action Replay (C), R. Handel, 8-11-4 .... A. Branford
4 4-04110 Holemoor Boy (C), Miss S. Morris, 7-11-4 .... N. Wakley
5 132140 Santellis, D. Gandolfo, 7-11-3 .... P. Barton
6 01b100 Firing Line, L. Kennard, 5-11-3 .... R. Crank
7 200200 Tiercel, Mrs L. Dingwall, 6-10-10 .... P. Haynes
15 140131 The Jeanstan (C), S. Pattemore, 7-10-10 .... G. Thorner
16 400000 Orenmore, R. Atkins, 6-10-9 .... R. Atkins
18 122-012 Straitjacket, A. Watts, 5-10-9 .... C. Read
19 0423-44 Mark's Boy, A. Jones, 6-10-9 .... P. Steel
21 000040 Airy Fairy (CD), O. O'Neill, 8-10-4 .... A. Webb 7
22 4300-p Twilight Boy, J. Cann, 6-10-3 .... G. Knight 7
23 fu00u0 Randy Brandy (C), J. Cann, 6-10-3 .... J. Williams
25 f14 Scolded Cat, B. Wise, 5-10-1 .... C. Bowen 7
26 1f2402 Heman (CD), T. Hallett, 9-10-1 .... T. Hallett 5
28 10224-p Leisure Bay (C), I. Wardle, 5-10-0 .... S. Nayr
30 000224 Georgie Stephens, D. Hanley, 8-10-0 .... N. Flanagan
31 040040 Go Baby Go (D), H. Payne, 5-10-0 .... Mr P. Hobbs 5
32 0-00104 Miss Worden, B. Wise, 6-10-0 .... G. Enright 5

5-3 The Jeanstan, 100-30 Hit Parade, 5-1 Palmeira Square, 6-1 Santellis, Straitjacket, 10-1 Firing Line, 12-1 Heman, 20-1 others.

4.15 DRAKE STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £709: 3m 1f)

1 0-f2112 Ivy Tree, J. Thorne, 7-11-10 .... P. Blacker
2 p-0031f My Sunshine, S. Mellor, 6-11-10 .... K. Stone 5
4 0-13039 Water Splash, Mrs E. Kennard, 9-11-10 .... Mr P. Hobbs 5
5 0000p0 Alpenstock, Mrs E. Gaze, 9-11-5 .... —
6 0fp-0rr Blue Fon, M. James, 9-11-5 .... Mr M. Reeves 3
11 02000f Great Wave, G. Balding, 6-11-5 .... S. May
12 p-pu0 Innkeeper, Miss S. Morris, 8-11-5 .... N. Wakley
13 00fp3p Isleamrada, M. Oliver, 8-11-5 .... —
14 040210 Just For Sure, G. Kindersley, 5-11-5 .... C. Candy
15 2f0000 Keening, C. Bewicke, 7-11-5 .... R. Champion
16 02pp30 Manitee's Venture, Mrs N. Whitfield, 9-11-5 .... C. Smith 7
19 fr Persian Bandit, H. Payne, 10-11-5 .... P. Richards 7
21 000039 Princess Saraguay, G. Turk, 11-11-2 .... Mr B. Parsons 7
22 030-p04 Silent Waif, D. Gandolfo, 7-11-5 .... P. Barton
23 f400 Stories Roma, W. Williams, 10-11-5 .... Mr J. Frost 7
25 10-10ff Toy Flag, T. Forster, 9-11-5 .... G. Thorner
26 330021 Willow Hound, R. Sturdy, 9-11-5 .... —
27 000000 Welsh Dresser, J. O'Donoghue, 5-11-0 .... P. Butler 7

11-4 Willow Hound, 7-2 Ivy Tree, 4-1 My Sunshine, 13-2 Water Splash, 8-1 Just For Sure, 10-1 Keening, 12-1 Toy Flag, 20-1 others.

4.45 FROBISHER HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £306: 2m 40yd)

2 01 Inglewood, W. Fisher, 8-11-10 .... Mr M. Reeves 3
3 42041 Three Gems, M. Oliver, 8-11-10 .... P. Blacker
4 0340 Black Abbot, D. Gandolfo, 7-11-0 .... P. Barton
5 000 Buckthorn, T. Hallett, 9-11-0 .... Mr C. Crosthwaite
6 00- Courting Tree, D. Barons, 6-11-0 .... S. May
8 4- Five of Hearts, C. Fryer, 8-11-0 .... M. Wagner
9 0-00004 Lo Maestro, G. Balding, 7-11-0 .... R. Linley
11 — Lovely Orchid, H. Handel, 8-11-0 .... A. Branford
12 0 Love Penny, D. H. Jones, 5-11-0 .... J. Jenkins
13 — Mayday II, J. O'Donoghue, 6-11-0 .... P. Butler 7
15 p0-3442 Mermoney, T. Forster, 8-11-0 .... G. Thorner
16 0 Oryotus, D. Gandolfo, 5-11-0 .... —
18 0f0ppp Sailor's Tickle, T. Yarnold, 7-11-0 .... R. Hyett
20 000-003 So Likely, T. Hallett, 5-11-0 .... T. Hallett 5
21 3 Stormy River, S. Mellor, 7-11-0 .... C. B. Jones 7
22 — Tachyon, K. Pipe, 5-11-0 .... —
24 p Premore, R. Atkins, 4-10-7 .... R. Atkins
25 — Its Alright Jack, W. Sleeman, 4-10-7 .... Mr C. Sleeman 7
26 000p00 Meer Lady, J. Bradley, 4-10-7 .... Mr M. Loy 7
28 0420 Tonedale, J. Baker, 4-10-7 .... J. Williams

9-4 Three Gems, 7-2 Black Abbot, 9-2 Inglewood, 6-1 Lo Maestro, 8-1 Mermoney, 10-1 Stormy River, 12-1 Tonedale, 20-1 others.

5.15 FROBISHER HURDLE (Div III: Part I: Novices: £306: 2m 40yd)

2 pp1 Mrs Stephens, L. Potter, 6-11-10 .... N. Wakley
5 — Fire Tender, L. Kennard, 6-11-0 .... R. Crank
7 — Fortify, T. Forster, 5-11-0 .... —
10 pp-0p Ivetsey Girl, J. Tierney, 8-11-0 .... D. Wall 7
11 0 Leadville, T. Forster, 6-11-0 .... —
13 — Orient Light, T. Fowler, 7-11-0 .... M. Barrett 7
16 020220 Precipice Star, Mrs A. Finch, 7-11-0 .... R. J. Owen 7
18 00-040f Sanctum's Gift, J. Old, 7-11-0 .... C. Candy
21 p00-0 Swingfire, Mrs E. Kennard, 6-11-0 .... E. Wright
31 p-0 Wimour, G. Kindersley, 7-11-0 .... B. McNally 7
32 0000 Chevis, Mrs N. Whitfield, 3-10-7 .... C. Smith 7
33 — Moonolie, J. Bradley, 4-10-7 .... J. Williams

6-4 Mrs Stephens, 11-4 Swingfire, 7-2 Precipice Star, 8-1 Fortify, 10-1 Fire Tender, 14-1 Sanctum's Gift, 20-1 others.

5.45 FROBISHER HURDLE (Div III: Part II: £306: 2m 40yd)

1 00 Aureleate, S. Mellor, 8-11-10 .... C. B. Jones 7
4 000 Cranford Bridge, W. Tanton, 6-11-0 .... S. May
8 f Howling Wind, R. Povock, 5-11-0 .... P. Richards 7
9 — Island Prince, T. Forster, 6-11-0 .... G. Thorner
15 f Natalane, J. Spearing, 7-11-0 .... J. Williams
18 — Persian Cavalier, N. Wakley, 5-11-0 .... E. Knowles 7
17 00 Princely Seal, R. Armytage, 6-11-0 .... H. J. Evans
19 303020 *Scot Free, Miss S. Morris, 6-11-0 .... —
23 p00-240 Tiger Trap, W. Fisher, 7-11-0 .... N. Wakley
35 0020 Chatter Girl, J. Hayward, 4-10-7 .... B. McNally 7
39 f00 Lytham, D. Kent, 4-10-7 .... P. Haynes
53 ppp Some Streak, J. Thorne, 4-10-7 .... P. Blacker

2-1 Chatter Girl, 3-1 Island Prince, 4-1 Aureleate, 11-2 Princely Seal, 8-1 Tiger Trap, 12-1 Lytham, 20-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Devon and Exeter selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.15 Icebreaker. 2.45 My Christine. 3.15 Tinker Boy. 3.45 Straitjacket. 4.15 TOY FLAG is specially recommended. 4.45 Three Gems. 5.15 Swingfire. 5.45 Tiger Trap.

Newbury selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.0 Brown Admiral. 2.30 LEADING LADY is specially recommended. 3.5 Mickley Seabright. 3.35 King Bruce. 4.5 Smilbo Smaggins. 4.35 Shivers Regal.

Bangor-on-Dee selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Madison. 2.45 Spacer. 3.15 Silberto. 3.45 ANOTHER VENTURE is specially recommended. 4.15 Pride of Olly. 4.45 Mon Cheval. 5.15 Pearly.

Newbury programme

[*Television (BBC1)*: 2.0, 2.30 *and* 3.05 *races*]

2.0 KENCOT STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,469: 2½m)

1 (1010b Uncle Bing (C), G. Dodge, 7-11-9 .... J. Francome
3 pf-0000 Brusiee (D), P. Scudamore, 10-11-5 .... A. Turnell
5 113244 Vikrom (C), F. Winter, 9-11-2 .... Mr N. Henderson
6 231110 Perambulate, D. Barons, 7-11-3 .... D. Cartwright
7 43-1122 Even Dawn (D), F. Rimell, 7-10-6 .... C. Young 5
12 122324 Brown Admiral (D), F. Rimell, 7-10-6 .... K. B. White
13 010341 Drumwynt, D. Hanley, 7-10-0 .... V. Soane
16 1-f3000 Galloway Edition (D), G. Balding, 7-10-0 .... K. Roberts 7

7-4 Even Dawn, 4-1 Vikrom, 5-1 Brown Admiral, Perambulate, 6-1 Uncle Bing, 8-1 Drumwynt, 12-1 Brusiee, 14-1 Galloway Edition.

2.30 GREENHAM GROUP HURDLE (Handicap: 4-y-o: £4,409: 2m)

2 0210 Little Catworth (CD), F. Winter, 11-4 .... J. Francome
3 f121 Leading Lady (D), P. Taylor, 11-4 .... A. Carroll 5
5 113110 Manzoni (D), D. Gandolfo, 11-2 .... J. King
6 211034 *Spare Slipper (CD), D. Nugent, 11-0 .... —
7 0111 Smile of Fortune (D), J. Gifford, 10-13 .... M. C. Gifford
8 130001 Vespucci (D), D. Barons, 10-13 .... P. Leach 5
9 1p00 Winter Chic, F. Rimell, 10-12 .... K. B. White
10 130423 Cabar Faidh (D), P. Calver, 10-11 .... A. Webber
11 03110 Carabinier (D), J. Edwards, 10-10 .... A. Turnell
12 0010 Marleymix, M. Bolton, 10-9 .... —
13 220021 Linsky (CD), F. Winter, 10-5 .... P. O'Brien 7
16 0031 Barry John (D), D. Morley, 10-4 .... B. R. Davies
17 340 Mr Linnet, F. Walwyn, 10-4 .... W. Smith
18 222423 Midao, M. H. Easterby, 10-4 .... P. Broderick
19 001002 Princely Mark, D. Barons, 10-4 .... D. Cartwright
20 0010 Jimmy Miff (D), I. Wardle, 10-3 .... R. Floyd 5
21 210200 Tudor Flame (D), A. Stevens, 10-3 .... R. C. Bailey
22 0421b2 Darling Bob (D), G. Balding, 10-0 .... G. Larson
25 0p33 Comet Koboutek, G. Harwood, 10-0 .... J. Potter 7
26 302214 Magic Love (D), L. Holt, 10-0 .... J. Suthern
28 0022 Virginia Drive, D. Underwood, 10-0 .... R. Dickin 5
29 420p1 Noron, R. Morris, 10-0 .... —

6-3 Vespucci, 5-1 Little Catworth, 6-1 Linsky, Smile of Fortune, 8-1 Barry John, Leading Lady, 10-1 Midao, Carabinier, Manzoni, 14-1 others.

3.05 BETTERTON STEEPLECHASE (£1,760: 3m)

[illegible] .... Mr P. Brookshaw 7
3 0f-441b Mister Tadpole (D), T. Dudgeon, 11-11-10 .... Mr A. Crawford 7
5 110 Indian Diva, M. Thorne, 7-11-5 .... Mr N. Henderson
6 21-0 Otter Way, O. Carter, 8-11-5 .... J. King
10 000000 Doctor Domoro, M. Marsh, 9-11-5 .... M. C. Clifford
16 403fr0 Sunny Isle, J. Webber, 6-11-5 .... A. Webber

11-8 Mickley Seabright, 5-2 Otter Way, 7-2 Summer Dance, 5-1 Mister Tadpole, 10-1 others.

3.35 ALVESCOT HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £593: 2½m 120yd)

2 3-20000 Brigadier Vince, P. Bailey, 6-11-10 .... J. King
3 020-040 King Bruce, F. Winter, 6-11-10 .... J. Francome
5 p000-c0 Lisnegar, P. Upton, 6-11-10 .... V. Soane
6 000440 Stallonayre, J. Marriage, 6-11-10 .... Mr A. Heath 7
8 03 Bryan Boru, D. Gandolfo, 5-11-7 .... —
11 2 Dance Again II, G. Balding, 5-11-7 .... Miss J. Brook 7
19 ff0fpf Our Jimmy, J. Hayward, 5-11-7 .... R. Houghton 7
20 0000p Per Pound, G. Alford, 5-11-7 .... Joe Guest
23 000 Saran Slave, P. Cundell, 5-11-7 .... —
25 0f0200 Tudor Lord, D. Morley, 5-11-7 .... B. R. Davies

5-2 Bryan Boru, 7-2 Tudor Lord, 4-1 Saran Slave, 5-1 King Bruce, 8-1 Dance Again II, Brigadier Vince, 12-1 Stallonayre, 16-1 others.

4.05 JACK SPRAGGON STEEPLECHASE (Hunters: £514: 3m)

1 21f-114 French Colonist (CD), S. Embiricos, 11-12-7 .... Mr K. Podger 7
2 111 Smilbo Smaggins (D), R. Stuart-Hunt, 11-12-7 .... Mr R. Stuart-Hunt 7
7 01 Gipsy Love (D), H. Manners, 6-12-0 .... Mr S. Pearce 7
8 p0p2-p1 Saint All (D), A. Davison, 12-12-0 .... Mr D. Evatt 5
9 3p-43a Vani Vici (D), C. McDonagh, 12-12-0 .... Mr K. Hyatt 5
10 0f0-423 Indian Red, P. Mann, 11-11-9 .... Mr C. Mann 7
11 40 Saltamo, B. James, 10-11-9 .... Mr T. Rooney 7
12 4-0 Sheldon Satellite, W. Sylvester, 8-11-9 .... Mr J. Ivey 7

13-8 Smilbo Smaggins, 3-1 French Colonist, 4-1 Gipsy Love, 8-1 Saint All, 6-1 Indian Red, 12-1 others.

4.35 ALVESCOT HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £579: 2½m 120yd)

1 00f440 Beck'n Call, M. Scudamore, 6-11-10 .... A. Turnell
3 024- Freely, B. Vibert, 6-11-10 .... V. Soane
7 000 Seal Flower, R. Dening, 6-11-10 .... D. Cartwright
8 202b03 Shivers Regal, G. Clay, 6-11-10 .... P. Warner
9 p0 Abbethane, H. Willis, 5-11-7 .... J. Suthern
10 00 Burcott Lad, F. Winter, 5-11-7 .... J. Francome
13 — Mampara, T. Dudgeon, 5-11-7 .... B. Forsey
16 0-000C0 Reck Coin, J. Harward, 5-11-7 .... R. Houghton 7
17 00 Samoa Tan, D. Dale, 5-11-7 .... R. G. Hughes
18 p-00 Sheila's Darling, I. Wardle, 5-11-7 .... R. R. White

6-1 Shivers Regal, 11-1 Beck'n Call, 9-2 Burcott Lad, 11-2 Freely, 8-1 Sheila's Darling, 14-1 others.

* Doubtful runner.

Hexham programme

[*Television (IBA)*: 1.30, 2.0, *and* 2.30 *races*]

1.30 WALWICK HURDLE (4-y-o maidens: £272: 2m)

3 00 Grey Granite, K. Oliver, 11-7 .... C. Tinkler
5 000 Ice Plant, N. Crump, 11-7 .... D. Atkins
6 — Johnny Hooker, C. Renilson, 11-7 .... —
8 0p0 Kinville, C. Lamb, 11-7 .... R. Lamb
10 00000 Pickwood Knight, J. Leigh, 11-7 .... D. Nolan
11 p Pirate Jack, T. Tate, 11-7 .... Mr T. Tate 7
12 — Royaldien, A. Corner, 11-7 .... G. Faulkner 5
13 000 Sleak Street, Mrs Craggs, 11-7 .... Mr P. Craggs 7
14 — Slipped Halo, F. Walton, 11-7 .... Mr J. Walton
15 0f0 Sovereign Charger, D. Aaron, 11-7 .... Mr B. Aaron 7
16 0 Space Talk, M. Camacho, 11-7 .... D. Greaves
18 00 The Hawk, W. A. Stephenson, 11-7 .... W. Redfern
19 0p400 Touch of Green, M. H. Easterby, 11-7 .... N. Tinkler
20 0 Verona Fair, G. Richards, 11-7 .... J. J. O'Neill

9-4 Touch of Green, 100-30 Verona Fair, 4-1 The Hawk, 6-1 Johnny Hooker, 8-1 Grey Granite, 12-1 Ice Plant, 14-1 others.

2.0 HUGH JOICEY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £851: 3m)

1 023104 Even Swell (CD), N. Crump, 9-11-7 .... D. Atkins
2 120412 More Wayward (D), W. Crawford, 7-11-3 .... R. Barry
3 414a30 Pattered (D), A. Dickinson, 10-11-2 .... M. Dickinson
5 00-3642 Scarfell (CD), Lord Kilmany, 13-10-8 .... P. Ennis
7 114p-34 Proud King, T. Barnes, 11-10-5 .... J. Morton 7
8 p04033 Fort Vulgan, K. Oliver, 8-10-4 .... C. Tinkler
10 0p0p22- Kirkhead (CD), W. A. Stephenson, 9-10-2 .... G. Faulkner 5
12 311002 Garryvoe, A. Kemp, 8-10-0 .... V. Percival
13 111401 Salmo Lady, C. Lamb, 8-10-4 .... R. Lamb
14 p The Tunku, J. Berry, 10-10-0 .... K. Gray

5-2 More Wayward, 7-2 Even Swell, 4-1 Fort Vulgan, 11-2 Scarfell, 7-1 Pattered, 8-1 Salmo Lady, 12-1 Proud King, 20-1 others.

2.30 GUS CARTER HURDLE (Handicap: £925: 2m)

2 p24023 Highway Rambler, G. Richards, 6-12-6 .... J. J. O'Neill
3 442111 Any Second (CD), W. Murray, 7-12-1 .... P. Mangan
5 12 Shari (D), A. Dickinson, 6-10-13 .... M. Dickinson
7 fpfp30 Devil's Soldier (D), W. Atkinson, 8-10-9 .... R. Barry
9 a42000 Marcus Lacy (CD), C. Lamb, 7-10-8 .... R. Lamb
10 000020 Cool Imp (CD), H. Rebanks, 5-10-3 .... P. A. Charlton 7
11 ff0000 Fixby Gold (D), M. H. Easterby, 6-10-5 .... C. Tinkler
13 1104 Nutshell (D), J. Berry, 5-10-0 .... K. Gray
16 01000-0 Deer Creek (CD), T. Barnes, 8-10-0 .... —
17 100001 Regent's Choice (D), W. A. Stephenson, 5-10-0 .... R. Collins 5
19 000000 Gift Acre (D), W. Page, 5-10-0 .... P. Ennis
21 400-020 Chippingham, D. Aaron, 8-10-0 .... Mr K. G. Kersey 7

11-4 Highway Rambler, 4-1 Any Second, 9-2 Shari, 6-1 Regent's Choice, 8-1 Nutshell, 12-1 Cool Imp, 14-1 Chippingham, 20-1 others.

3.0 FOURSTONES STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £521: 2m)

1 24-4031 Dorlesa (CD), A. Dickinson, 8-12-7 .... M. Dickinson
2 310032 Half a Sixpence (CD), K. Oliver, 11-10-7 .... Maj H. Baillie 5
3 12bup3 Suspender (D), A. Kemp, 8-10-4 .... V. Percival
5 231a30 Never There (D), T. Barnes, 6-10-0 .... J. Morton 7
6 23f244 Lothian Brig (CD), J. Alder, 11-10-0 .... —
7 114344 Peapack (CD), V. Thompson, 9-10-0 .... J. J. O'Neill
9 400000 Gorswood (CD), W. Page, 10-10-0 .... P. Ennis

Evens Dorlesa, 4-1 Half a Sixpence, 11-2 Suspender, 8-1 Peapack, 10-1 Never There, 14-1 others.

3.30 SANDHOE HURDLE (Novices: £272: 3m)

1 0-0051f Alec Lewis, W. A. Stephenson, 6-12-7 .... Mr P. Greenall
2 000431 Prince of Shoon (D), A. Barclay, 6-12-7 .... Mr J. Nelson 7
4 00 Auchinleck, S. Leadbetter, 5-12-0 .... Mr A. Young 7
5 f03200 Double Fault, G. Fairbairn, 7-12-0 .... Mr P. Clegg 7
7 00 Fishy Story, Mrs J. Hollands, 5-12-0 .... Mr K. [illegible] 7
12 pp Galtim, Mrs J. Salisbury, 11-12-0 .... Mr A. Belmer 7
13 0003 Golden Hawke, R. Cross, 8-12-0 .... Mr H. O'Neal 7
14 000000 Lost Cause, J. Harriman, 6-12-0 .... —
15 p04400 Loudon Gay, K. Oliver, 5-12-0 .... Mr J. Mackie 7
16 000 Pamra, W. A. Stephenson, 6-12-0 .... Mr K. Jewitt 7
20 00-09b Seldom Seen II, R. Wilson, 6-12-0 .... Mr J. Hamilton 7
22 020402 Sweet Innocence, D. Forsyth, 5-12-0 .... Mr D. Forsyth 7
23 000302 Thuster, Mrs L. Hamilton, 5-12-0 .... Mr Macmillan
24 00 Tully Town, A. Dickinson, 5-12-0 .... Mr T. Tate 7
25 0f-00-00 Tutan Star, R. Wilson, 8-12-0 .... Mr F. Walton 7
26 6300a0 Whispering Grass, V. Thompson, 5-12-0 .... Mr J. Walton

7-4 Prince of Shoon, 3-1 Alec Lewis, 11-2 Double Fault, 13-2 Golden Hawke, 8-1 Sweet Innocence, 10-1 Thuster, 16-1 others.

4.0 ALLERWASH STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £408: 2m)

2 400-013 Sharageen, A. Dickinson, 7-11-10 .... M. Dickinson
3 0-44140 Soutra (D), B. Wilkinson, 8-11-10 .... D. Atkins
3 010230 Supreme Sail (D), V. Thompson, 8-11-3 .... Mr J. Walton
4 0100-43 Alystar, A. Kemp, 6-11-0 .... V. Percival
6 34 Braw Lad, T. Dalgetty, 7-11-0 .... D. Nolan
8 2403fu Butch Cassidy, T. Barnes, 7-11-0 .... J. Morton 7
9 0p00-bu Foreign Field, K. Oliver, 6-11-0 .... C. Tinkler
10 001000 Hindhope, Mrs S. Hogg, 6-11-0 .... P. Mangan
11 00f Jimlan, T. Gillam, 8-11-0 .... D. Munro
14 p23 Moonlight Mistake, W. Crawford, 9-11-0 .... R. Barry
16 00f-000 Omao, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-0 .... G. Faulkner 5
17 04a300 Shalimar, G. Fairbairn, 6-11-0 .... J. James

5-2 Sharageen, 7-2 Moonlight Mistake, 5-1 Alystar, 7-1 Soutra, 8-1 Supreme Sail, 10-1 Shalimar, 12-1 Butch Cassidy, 16-1 others.

Bangor-on-Dee programme

2.15 BRYN-Y-PYS STEEPLECHASE (£408: 3m 214yd)

1 0-p0043 Madison (C), R. Gough, 9-12-9 .... Mr R. Gough 7
3 113-000 Parnassus (CD), W. Owens, 9-12-9 .... Mr R. Wilding 7
4 4-24 Tartuffe, V. Whiteman, 10-12-0 .... Mr V. Whiteman 7
6 2000-10 Return Sale, A. Garton, 8-12-5 .... Mr T. Garton 7
8 — Summer Scene, P. Quinn, 10-12-0 .... Mr P. Quinn 7
9 022 Ted's Lad, E. Owen jun, 7-10-0 .... Mr E. Owen 7
10 — Top Three, Mrs Jackson, 10-12-0 .... —
11 — Mickley Love Story, Mrs Brookshaw, 9-11-9 .... Mr S. Brookshaw 7
12 4004a-u Volition, Mrs Greenall, 8-11-9 .... Mr J. Newton 5

7-4 Ted's Lad, 5-2 Return Sale, 3-1 Tartuffe, 6-1 Mickley Love Story, 12-1 Madison, 20-1 others.

2.45 PENLEY HURDLE (4-y-o: Div I: £272: 2m 92yd)

1 2001000 Lionsmead, A. Fisher, 11-10 .... D. Sunderland
2 03f120 Romping To Work, J. Edwards, 11-10 .... R. Evans
4 00 Festina, M. Scudamore, 11-0 .... P. Duggins 5
6 40000 Five Card Stud, P. Felgate, 11-0 .... R. Weaver
8 00240 Gay Whistle, R. Hollinshead, 11-0 .... C. Astbury
10 — Glencraig, W. Whiston, 11-0 .... —
11 0440 Indebar, S. Brookshaw, 11-0 .... Mr P. Barry 7
12 00 Liebestied, W. Jenks, 11-0 .... R. F. Davies
13 p00 Pallbearer, A. Rumsey, 11-0 .... —
14 000p Prince of Normandy, H. Gittins, 11-0 .... N. Clay 3
15 0000 Princess Ragusa, S. Mellor, 11-0 .... Mr R. Wilding 7
16 — — .... J. Glover
17 0 Ram Dor, F. Rimell, 11-0 .... J. Burke
19 00 Snoopy Too, D. Nicholson, 11-0 .... B. Grove 7
20 304043 Spacer, D. McCain, 11-0 .... T. Stack
21 000 Sylvan Glade, D. Dartnall, 11-0 .... G. Dartnall
22 — Tessy's Girl, S. Underhill, 11-0 .... R. Mann 6
24 u000 Uncle Newby, R. Edwards, 11-0 .... A. Deakin 7

3-1 Romping to Work, 4-1 Spacer, 9-2 Ram Dor, 6-1 Gay Whistle, 8-1 Five Card Stud, 10-1 Lionsmead, 12-1 Indebar, Princess Ragusa, 20-1 others.

3.15 ERBISTOCK STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £690: 2m 4f 81yd)

1 223- Master Hero, R. Clay, 9-11-7 .... J. Burke
2 1p-1243 Saucy Belle, R. E. Peacock, 10-11-2 .... M. Blackshaw
4 1-02301 Silberto, F. Colon, 6-10-7 .... S. Holland
5 121330 Eleuiah, Mrs Gaze, 6-10-7 .... —
6 400000 Third Redeemer, S. Mellor, 8-10-7 .... J. Glover
7 — Great Haste, S. Underhill, 8-10-[...] .... —
8 64334 Sunny Chief, B. Cambidge, 8-10-2 .... Mr G. Jones
10 1pp003 Rolfrain, R. E. Peacock, 7-10-0 .... A. Taylor 5
11 f3p000 Evening Witness, T. Healey, 6-11-10 .... Mr N. Brookshaw 7
12 4p0000 Mr Pippins, L. Barrett, 6-10-0 .... M. Murphy 7
13 0p4f10 Sherry Syce, W. Clay, 8-10-0 .... N. Clay 3
15 0f0403 Master Blarney, H. Morris, 7-10-0 .... P. Morris

3-1 Silberto, 7-2 Going to Roost, 9-2 Third Redeemer, 5-1 Saucy Belle, 8-1 Great Haste, Sunny Chief, 12-1 Bienfait, 16-1 others.

3.45 TALLARN STEEPLECHASE (6-y-o: £403: 2m 180yd)

1 f30211 Another Venture, J. Edwards, 12-0 .... T. Stack
2 333313 Brilliant Boy, R. Clay, 11-7 .... T. Harty
3 uu4013 Cotton Coon, S. Brookshaw, 11-7 .... R. Evans
5 3000u0 Border Larak, J. Peacock, 11-0 .... A. Mawson
6 0p00f Chiltern Hill, K. Lewis, 11-0 .... Mr B. Thomas 7
7 300204 Eastern American, B. Morris, 11-0 .... P. Morris
8 0p2434 Hurry Imp, M. Tate, 11-0 .... R. Mann 5
9 0000uf Irish Quicksteps, S. Norton, 11-0 .... N. Clay 3
11 000000 Our Muffler, R. E. Peacock, 11-0 .... S. O'Neill 7
12 02-0030 The Ridge Cadet, J. FitzGerald, 11-0 .... —
13 0p-04 Travellis, A. Rumsey, 11-0 .... D. Sunderland
14 p00 Ye-Yo, J. Bissill, 11-0 .... R. F. Davies

Evens Another Venture, 4-1 Brilliant Boy, 5-1 Hurry Imp, 8-1 Eastern American, 12-1 Cotton Coon, 14-1 Travellis, 20-1 others.

4.15 ALTHREY HURDLE (Handicap: £544: 3m 38yd)

1 1f3-ppp Copper Canyon, S. Brookshaw, 9-12-1 .... Mr P. Barry 7
6 000 Broad Oak Ranger, T. Healey, 4-11-6 .... Mr M. Charles 7
8 020230 Idro, R. E. Peacock, 8-11-5 .... S. O'Neill 7
9 f123uf Son and Heir, J. Edwards, 6-11-5 .... T. Stack
12 040001 Pride of Olly, B. McMahon, 7-11-1 .... J. Glover
13 140432 Wrongly Down, R. Edwards, 5-11-0 .... C. Astbury
14 432pa2 Kildagin, D. Nicholson, 12-10-12 .... P. Carville 7
16 200014 Winall, G. Owen, 8-10-9 .... R. Evans
17 143102 Broomstick, S. Holland, 8-10-9 .... S. Holland
18 00100p Apple, W. Clay, 5-10-0 .... N. Clay 3
20 3-00040 Beer and Skittles, R. Hollinshead, 5-10-0 .... S. Bevan 7
21 040400 Sarcoah, H. Morris, 5-10-0 .... J. Burke
22 40000-p Quiche Lorraine, R. Murphy, 6-10-0 .... R. F. Davies

5-2 Pride of Olly, 7-2 Son and Heir, 4-1 Wrongly Down, 11-2 Kildagin, 8-1 Idro, 10-1 Broomstick, 12-1 Winall, 20-1 others.

4.45 PENLEY HURDLE (4-y-o: Div II: Part I: £272: 2m 92yd)

1 310 Chadacre, R. E. Peacock, 11-10 .... S. O'Neill 7
2 p00431 Mon Cheval, L. Garratt, 11-10 .... S. Holland
5 02 Brelade's Bay, D. McCain, 11-0 .... T. Stack
7 — Countless, F. Rimell, 11-0 .... J. Burke
11 0210 Flirter, J. Bissill, 11-0 .... R. F. Davies
13 u0000 Gin Pennant, F. Rimell, 11-0 .... R. O'Donovan 7
15 00000 Get Lucky, R. Murphy, 11-0 .... R. Evans
17 0 Greenburns, B. Cambidge, 11-0 .... Mr G. Jones
19 000f2 Lacrimally, H. Westbrook, 11-0 .... J. Glover
21 — Miss Ace, W. Whiston, 11-0 .... —
24 6 Phantom Lad, N. Renshaw, 11-0 .... P. Russell
27 0 Saucy Sam, D. Nicholson, 11-0 .... M. Stephens 7

6-4 Mon Cheval, 7-2 Countless, 4-1 Chadacre, 8-1 Flirter, 10-1 Lacrimally, 12-1 Saucy Sam, 20-1 others.

5.15 PENLEY HURDLE (4-y-o: Div II: Part II: £272: 2m 92yd)

3 013 Pearly, M. Tate, 11-10 .... R. Evans
6 4n0 Dear Remus, R. Edwards, 11-0 .... C. Astbury
14 p000 French View, F. Rimell, 11-0 .... J. Burke
15 00 Georg Kirtland, G. Price, 11-0 .... Mr C. Price 7
16 0 Gracemount, P. Felgate, 11-0 .... R. Weaver
18 0020 Icy Camp, E. Owen jun, 11-0 .... Mr E. Owen 7
20 040302 Maybe, J. Sutton, 11-0 .... Mr R. Wilding 7
22 — Nicole Lisa, J. Peacock, 11-0 .... R. Pfeiffer 7
25 230240 Otaki, W. Clay, 11-0 .... N. Clay 3
26 0 Poppy Petals, W. Manu, 11-0 .... R. Mann 5
28 0 Starlight Castle, S. Brookshaw, 11-0 .... C. Goldsworthy
29 0 Tremaran, J. Smith, 11-0 .... Mr G. McCourt 7

2-1 Pearly, 11-4 Dear Remus, 4-1 Maybe, 5-1 Otaki, 12-1 French View, Icy Camp, 20-1 others.

Doncaster results

2.30 (2.35) CROWN PLUS TWO APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£965: 1m)

Fighting Brave, b c, by Huntercombe—Alemena (V. Hamill), 4-9-0 .... A Creasey (14-1) 1
Lush Gold .... F. O'Brien (9-1) 2
Ascot Royale .... W. Higgins (15-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 5-1 fav Wheatclose, 9-1 Fixed Target, 11-1 Glens Boy (4th), 15-1 Gay Bird, 14-1 Old Carl, 16-1 Le Dauphin, Psalve, 20-1 Forgets Image, Friendly Boy, 25-1 Dashing Hussar, 33-1 Lucky Seventeen, Town Farm, Squires Vine, Troopville, Another Pinte, El Kilnia, Star Penny, Fann Gazer, Jack Jiggs, Merchant Prince, Windmill Boy, Spirit of Ecstasy. 25 ran.

TOTE: Win, £1.24; places, 37p, 20p, 18p. G. Harwood, at Pulborough. 2½l, ½l. 1min 43.[..]sec. James Three withdrawn: not under orders.

3.5 (3.7) BATTHYANY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,127: 5f)

Coded Scrap, b c, by Mummy's Pet—Autumn Breeze (C. Newton, Jnr, Ltd), 7-7 .... C. Eccleston (6-1) 1
Urray Harry .... T. Ives (15-1) 2
Pangilma .... C. Moss (20-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Minstrel, 6-1 Get Ready, Self Satisfied, 9-1 Major John, 12-1 Doctor Wall, 16-1 Maryland, 20-1 Bowling Alley, Gold Flight, Magnolia Lad, Proud Felix (4th), 25-1 Woodlands, Hollakes. 15 ran.

TOTE: Win, 63p; places, 25p, 76p, £1.61. T. Fairhurst, Middleham. 1l, 1½l. 1min 02.74sec. Raffia Set did not run.

3.35 (3.37) DONCASTER SPRING HANDICAP (£1,950: 1¼m 127yd)

Grinling Gibbons, br c, by Reform—Angels Falls (A. Bodie), 4-9-6 .... G. Starkey (9-2 fav) 1
Cadogan Lane .... P. Eddery (8-1) 2
Quiet .... G. Lewis (8-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 High Season, 13-2 Escarole, 8-1 Nico Romance, 10-1 High Drama, 11-1 Pot Luck, 14-1 Extrovert, Montreal Boy, (4th), 33-1 Uncle Cyril, Tall Lad. 12 ran.

TOTE: Win, 59p; places, 23p, 27p, 23p. G. Harwood, at Pulborough. 5l, nk. 2min 14.75sec. Maris Piper did not run.

4.5 (4.7) OPENING STAKES (2-y-o: £495: 5f)

Mia Saint, ch f, by St Alphage—Acropolita Mia (C. Hill), 8-8 .... E. Hide (5-2 fav) 1
Costa Beck .... G. Oldroyd (7-2) 2
Wamwath Girl .... C. Eccleston (20-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 3-1 Miss High Peak, 6-2 Right Vale, 20-1 Empressaria, 12-1 Rexsby (4th), 20-1 Marlock Morley. 8 ran.

TOTE: Win, 40p; places, 16p, 17p, 47p. C. Hill, at Barnstaple. 5l, 5l. 1min 6.50sec.

4.35 (4.37) FRENCH GATE STAKES (£1,272: 1m 5f)

Gunner B, ch c, by Royal Gunner (USA)—Sweet Councillor (Mrs P. Barratt), 3-8-0 D. Gray (7-2) 1
Priestlaw .... B. Taylor (8-1) 2
Touch of Gold .... R. Marshall (100-30 fav) 3

ALSO RAN: 7-2 Maid of Wales, 10-1 Mount Street, 20-1 Crown Major, Shine On, 33-1 Crime Buster, Beverley Boy, Colous (4th), Fridays Meadow, Uncle Jack. 12 ran.

TOTE: Win, 50p; places, 15p, 28p, 15p. G. Toft at Beverley. 3l, 1½l. 2min 13.85sec.

5.5 (5.7) MARCH STAKES (3-y-o: £1,300: 1m)

Pirate Dream, b c, by Breeders Dream—Pampered Angel (Mr J. Hayle), 9-0 J. Lynch (7-4 fav) 1
Silver Steel .... W. Carson (15-8) 2
Onsight .... J. Mercer (33-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 10-1 Haltch (4th), 14-1 Warren Ross, 20-1 Captain Flash, Hope Anchor, Micjuc, What a Find, 50-1 Look at Me, Darnaby Back, Silver Swallow. 12 ran.

TOTE: Win, 30p; places, 12p, 15p, 54p. D. Keith at Winchester. 3l, 2l. 1min 45.95sec.

Enemy did not run.

TOTE DOUBLE: Grinling Gibbons and Gunner B, £10.60. TREBLE: Coded Scrap, Mia Saint and Pirate Dream, £37.40. Jackpot: not won. Consolation dividend of £168.65 paid on first four legs.

Devon and Exeter NH

2.15: 1, Brig (100-30 jt fav); 2, Tidal Wave (14-1); 3, Toll Bridge (8-1). Scarlet Leader (100-30 jt fav). 20 ran.

2.45: 1, Bit of Manny (7-2); 2, Gay God (7-1); 3, Co-Over (9-1). Pensive Prince (11-4 fav). 13 ran.

3.15: 1, Tassie's Boy (5-1); 2, Micromead (14-1); 3, Glimmer (4-1). Breakwater (7-2 fav). 20 ran. Tregony Fella did not run.

3.45: 1, Terryash (11-2); 2, Golden Lichen (7-1); 3, Benly (4-1). Loch King (11-8 fav). 8 ran. Markus Royal (7-1) was withdrawn. Rule 4 applies.

4.15: 1, Evens Bar (8-1); 2, Wentworth Treasure (2-1); 3, Precious Jem (5-1). Killerby (15-8 fav). 13 ran.

4.45: 1, Christmas Candle (8-11 fav); 2, Tromso (9-1); 3, Freezing Point (11-1). 19 ran.

SPORT

Football

Manchester City play big part in title race

By Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent

Although Don Revie has said that he can detect a chink of light at the end of the tunnel—after victories over the Scottish League and Wales, in their centenary match, with heavily depleted English sides (Wales too were below strength)—I wish the rest of us, too, in another context, could see an answer to the hunt for the League championship title.

Queen's Park Rangers, Manchester United, Derby County and Liverpool are still locked in close combat, separated by a mere two points but with United and Liverpool having a game in hand. Rangers, with eight wins and a draw from their last nine games, possess the best goal average of the quartet, and since four of their concluding six matches are at Loftus Road, the shade of odds could be with them to win their first big title.

Like their rivals, Rangers are at their own fireside today. The opposition is not easy—Manchester City. But unlike the other Manchester and Derby (each without a key player), Rangers welcome back their captain, Francis, recovered from the heel injury which kept him out of their win at Stoke City last week and out of the England side at Wrexham in midweek.

Tony Book, the City manager, who is retaining the 17-year-old youth international, Gary Owen, for a second run out at inside right, has issued a warning: "Boys can rise to the occasion. They always pull out that little bit extra against the top teams. We have got to meet all four of the top sides before the end of the season, starting with QPR, and we will have a big say in the championship."

Manchester United also face a tough nut at Old Trafford. Middlesbrough, activated by the old warrior, Jack Charlton (who always enjoyed beating brother Bobby in a United red shirt), seldom give anything away. Had they finished better up front they might even have been involved in the hunt for honours. They will be without Cooper, the former England full back, yet recent wins at Leeds and Liverpool are a warning.

United, too, are still short of Macari, for the fourth consecutive match. Worried first by a groin injury and now a nagging foot injury, there must be doubts about the Scot's fitness for the FA Cup semi-final against Derby County next Saturday. United retain McCreery at No 10 in Macari's place, keeping the side who won 4—3 at Newcastle a week ago.

As for Macari, Tommy Docherty, his manager, said yesterday: "Even though he misses tomorrow's game, he will play in the semi-final, if he is fit. He is the type who could miss seven or eight games and still be match fit for the unlucky George there without a warm-up game. is no hope of his being in the Derby side for the semi-final. His dislocated shoulder will keep him out of action for a month, a critical period as Derby try for the League and Cup double. Having dropped a point at home in midweek to Stoke and lost George in the process, they must feel the fates have turned sour. Today they have Davies at centre forward in place of George as they face a Birmingham City side prepared to fight to the end against relegation.

Liverpool, too, are against a Burnley side haunted by the prospect of a drop to the second division, and welcome back Toshack as the finishing foil to little Keegan.

Elsewhere the afternoon could germinate some desperately close-run affairs—Sunderland v Southampton and Bolton Wanderers (a run of five matches in March without a win) against Chelsea. Promotion from the second division hangs by a thread here. So it does at the top of the third as Hereford face Brighton (lying first and second) and Crystal Palace receive Bury.



Rangers enjoy their training as they lead the run-in to the championship. Dave Sexton (left) gets Thomas and Bowles away while Webb and Shanks look on.

Bookmaker loses early on Lincoln

Ian Branfoot, a Lincoln City full back, scored his club's 100th goal of the season last night and cost a local bookmaker, Jim Hicks, £8,000. Mr Hicks, who had laid 6-1 at Christmas against them scoring 100 goals in all matches this season, was at Sincil Bank to see Braufoot's 47th minute goal—the fourth against Watford in Lincoln's 5—1 win.

Lincoln need 15 goals from their last 10 games to become the first club to score 100 League goals in a season since Queen's Park Rangers in 1967. They are now two points clear of Northampton at the top of the fourth division.

Last night's results:

FOURTH DIVISION: Lincoln City 5, Watford 1; Southport 1, Scunthorpe United 1; Stockport County 1, Reading 1; Tranmere Rovers 3, Cambridge United 2.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: First division: South: Canterbury 0, Ramsgate 1.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Castleford 28, Wigan 10.

Golf

Clark holes the putts that really matter

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

The top-gear victory of Michael Hughesdon and Clive Clark in the Sunningdale open foursomes yesterday set the seal on an unusually happy week at the club. They defeated Ian Stungo and B. Hunt by 2 and 1 after being taken to the 19th in the morning by Mrs J. Newman and Bruce Critchley. In the other semi-final match, Hunt and Stungo defeated T. Gillet and R. Jarratt by 2 and 1.

It was satisfying for Clark in his first year as the club's senior professional to win the 40-year-old event in which he has played so faithfully over the years. His partner is another worthy member of the club, just appointed chairman of the greens committee. They have both been thereabouts in the tournament for years and reached the unfinished semi-final round last time with different partners, but this was their first appearance together.

They started shakily in contrast to their opponents and were soon two down, looking like three down. But at the fifth, after Clark had driven into a bunker, he made amends by pitching to five feet and the rot was stopped. They won their sixth where their opponents missed the green and the crisis was over. The match was square again when they got down in two from a bunker at the ninth and he others did not.

Out in 36, Stungo rolled in a long putt for a three at the 10th, a hole where their opponents had had three birdies during the week, but they lost the 11th by overshooting the green and never saw the lead again. The winners missed a chance of the lead by taking three from the edge of the 14th where their opponents were twice bunkered, but at the 15th Hunt showed the first signs of tiredness by following Clark into sand off the tee. It was hardly surprising; Hunt is a big man and was playing his seventh match in four days.

Clark holed from 12 feet to win the hole, another sign that although their putting was not without blemish on awkward greens, Clark showed a tendency to hole the ones that really mattered. Perhaps this was the small decisive factor in a series of close matches which once again justified the handicapping system and seemed to me to put the fixture fairly and squarely back into the calendar. They won the 16th in four, Hughesdon gladdening his partner's heart by chipping a difficult one close, and Hunt failed with his chip at the 17th.

Hughesdon's great virtue through the week was to keep the ball on the fairway and allow Clark to make the most of his long game, in particular of his four-wood, of which he gave a good example at the 6th in the final. After Hughesdon's drive had almost stayed up in the branches of the sentinel tree, Clark found the green with a long one which had to clear the bunker guarding it. Clark will probably be too busy this season establishing himself in his new premises to play much on the tour, but to judge by appearances it is a time which he should enjoy.

Semi-final round
B. J. Hunt and I. M. Stungo (+1) beat T. A. Giles and R. S. Larratt (+1) 2 and 1.
C. Clark and M. Hughesdon (+1) beat Capt. Critchley and Mrs L. Bayman (6) at the 19th.
Final
Clark and Hughesdon beat Hunt and Stungo, 2 and 1.

Oosterhuis keeps with leaders

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, March 26—Peter Oosterhuis, of Britain, kept in touch with the American leader, Bob Murphy in the first round of the Heritage golf tournament here yesterday.

Oosterhuis had a three-under-par 68 to trail two strokes behind Murphy who set the pace with 66. Don January was alone on 67 with Oosterhuis one of eight golfers on 68. Britain's other entry, Tony Jacklin had a 73. Leading scores:

66: R. Murphy.
67: D. January.
68: P. Oosterhuis (GB), H. Green, D. Stockton, D. Edwards, G. Gilbert, B. Schroeder, M. Fleckman, B. Baird.
69: G. Player (South Africa), C. Marsh (Australia), T. Weiskopf, H. Irwin, J. C. Snead.
73: A. Jacklin (GB).

Motor racing

Ferrari chief against round houses race

Long Beach, California, March 26.—Ferrari's sports director, Daniele Audetto, came out strongly here today against Long Beach's circuit for Sunday's formula one motor-racing Grand Prix. "A formula one Grand Prix in a town, on a new circuit, non-permanent—it's mad. Ferrari is against it."

Mr Audetto gave his analysis of what was wrong with this "round-the-houses" track, already dubbed the "Monaco of the West". "The circuit has three different kinds of road surface", he said. "We went round on a reconnaissance drive in full traffic and the nose of our sports car was sometimes scraping the ground. Will the suspension take the strain? Are the tyres adequate? To tell the truth, this race is going to be a special kind of motor rally, rather than a formula one Grand Prix."

Ferrari's top driver, the reigning world champion, Niki Lauda, of Austria, who has already won the first two Grand Prix races in Brazil and South Africa this year, tended to be more pragmatic than his director. "We have to come to terms with the problems which face us all", Lauda said. "I think it's a good idea, especially for the public, to run Grand Prix races in towns—if security measures are satisfactory, which seems to be the case at Long Beach."

The British driver, James Hunt, one of Lauda's greatest rivals since he took a fine second place for McLaren in the South African Grand Prix at Kyalami, was even more positive about the novel circuit. "It's a different test, a more technical, thinking type of race than on a regular open course", he said. "It's going to be great fun."

Meanwhile the drivers are to make their first acquaintance with the Long Beach track today when the first official practice gets under way. There are 27 cars entered for the race and seven of them have to be eliminated in time trials.—Agence France Presse.

Hockey

Wales and Ireland meet the Olympic champions

By Sydney Friskin

The old order has changed. The traditional home countries quadrangular hockey tournament has yielded place to a new event in which England are not taking part. They decided to pull out at the end of last season in order to concentrate on Continental opposition and so at Cardiff today and tomorrow Wales, Scotland and Ireland are joined by West Germany the Olympic champions in a trial of strength.

Scotland will not play West Germany in Cardiff because they will do so in their own tournament in celebration of Edinburgh from anniversary, at Wales, who had a April 1 to 4 international record disappointing last season (they won the home countries title the year before) have selected a party of 17 for Cardiff. They had intended to have 16 but Griffiths, who plays for Beckenham and who has been capped 58 times for Wales, recovered sufficiently from a leg injury to be added to the party.

An encouraging feature of the Welsh party from a long-term point of view is the inclusion of three players who are under 20. They are: Cattrell (two caps) Western (1) and Howard Williams (2). Each of them earned their caps last summer during the Welsh tour of South Africa. Bryn Williams, last year's under-21 captain, who also made his first appearance in South Africa, is in the party.

Scotland's party contains a number of names familiar to the international scene. These include Sutherland. Dick, who played extremely well as sweeper for Great Britain in Amsterdam recently, Egerton, Murdoch and Hay. The only newcomer to international hockey is Brian Taylor, a left-back. Macindoe, who was originally selected, has withdrawn because of examinations and has not been replaced.

Ireland retain most of the players who took part in the international festival at Lord's, where they drew 0—0 with Britain and lost, somewhat unluckily, by 3—2 to Belgium. They, too, are trying new blood in the persons of Martin, Shields and Walker. They will look to Gregg for their goals, to Raphael for the midfield scheming, and Judge for the stability behind.

West Germany have brought back Krans, the man who scored the winning goal against Pakistan in the Munich Olympic final, missed the Moy West Germany, and is probably trying to play his way back into the side. Stroeder is now their main striker of short corners.

The English scene is dominated by a divisional match between East and West at Marlborough School, starting at 2.45. East have more or less the same side that lost 2—0 to Midlands at Woodhall Spa a couple of months ago. Brace comes back as centre half. The four leading teams in the London League table, Southgate, Slough, Guildford and Hounslow, are all involved in today's matches and the tussle for leadership could be exciting. The finals (first and second eleven) are to be played at Surbiton on April 13.

The British universities women's team was selected yesterday as follows:

B. Bleasdale (Aberystwyth, Wales), P. Knox (Queen's, Northern Ireland), J. Langley (Leeds, England), L. Quinn (Queen's, Northern Ireland), S. MacVicar (Glasgow, Scotland), S. Fryer (York, England), E. Ewing (Glasgow, Scotland), R. Beacom (captain, Queen's, Northern Ireland), L. Holmes (Newcastle, England), M. Gleghorn (Queen's, Northern Ireland), H. Robertson (Dundee, Scotland).

Today they play England Under-23 at York University. As Susan MacVicar is playing for the Scottish team against Wales her place will be taken by Mairi Robertson (Glasgow, Scotland). The reserves are S. McMichael (Queen's, Northern Ireland) and L. Craddock (London, England).

Badminton

All-British final may still see Mrs Gilks as loser

By Norman Fox

Gillian Gilks, who has lost the last three finals of the All-England badminton championships has another opportunity today when she plays another British girl, Margaret Lockwood at the Empire Pool, Wembley.

These two leading British players met in the 1973 final when Mrs Lockwood, then Miss Beck, won. Yesterday's semi-final round suggested that Mrs Gilks might again be deprived of the title even though she has beaten Mrs Lockwood several times in domestic events this season and lost only once.

Mrs Lockwood was only a minutes to beat the No 1 seed, Taty Sumirah, 11—1, 11—0, in a match as one-sided as the score indicated. The Indonesian girl fumbled everything close to the net and rarely achieved accuracy with her drives from the back of the court. As a result Mrs Lockwood almost walked into the final.

The semi-final round tie between Mrs Gilks and Lene *Köppen, of Denmark*, was incomparably more competitive. After seeming to be on a smooth path to the final by winning the first game 11—0 and being uncharacteristically relaxed, she began to struggle in the second against the persistent but considerably smaller Dane. She was 10—9 down and had to save two game points before winning 12—10.

In the men's semi-final round, the Indonesian, Rudy Hartono, hoping to win the title for a record eighth time, took 65 minutes to beat Fleming Delfs, a strong and hard-hitting Dane, who took him to three games. In the second, which Delfs won 15—7, Hartono needed to put a plaster round his left foot. This did not appear to impede his mobility but he had to work hard to win at any time in these championships to win the third game.

Men's singles
Semi-final round
Liem Swie King (Indonesia) beat S. Johnson (Sweden), 18—10, 15—2.
E. Hartono (Indonesia) beat F. Delfs (Denmark), 15—10, 7—13, 18—15.

Women's singles
Semi-final round
Mrs M. Lockwood (Middlesex) beat Miss T. Sumirah (Indonesia), 11—1, 11—0.
Miss M. A. Gilks (Surrey) beat Miss L. Köppen (Denmark), 11—0, 12—10.

Show jumping

A mare whom no field was able to contain

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Sally Mapleson, from Essex, who at 19 years of age has just outgrown the British junior team, shared the Marlboro Open Jumping Stakes at the Amberley Horse Show in Cirencester Park yesterday. She was riding her new five-year-old, The Phaeton, who was bred in Ireland by Miss Iris Kellett, the owner of Pele. The Phaeton is by the distinguished sire of jumpers, Blue Cliff, a son of Precipitc, out of Coach Girl, a jumping mare whom no field was able to contain. She jumped our of her paddock when Miss Kellett moved her instructional establishment from Dublin to co Kildare, and was apprehended in the nick of time, trying to make her way home, on a bridge over the river Liffey, hard by the docks where horses were being loaded for export to the Continent.

Sally won the Calor Gas International Championship at Wembley last year and her prize was a course of tuition with Miss Kellett, among whose products are Eddie Macken and Paul Darragh. She brought The Phaeton back from Ireland with her.

Graham Fletcher was the joint winner, in 47.2sec, on The Entertainer, and the No 1 on the Olympic short list also finished third and fourth, on Buttevant Boy and Double Brandy in the most valuable class of the day, the Marlboro County Stakes.

RESULTS: Punch Havana Cigar S and C Stakes: Equal 1, Mrs D. Backhouse's Calpurnia and L. Dunning's Countdown; 3, Mrs M. Dawes's Verlin-Marlboro Country Stakes: 1, J. Brown's Carrowe; 2, L. Welch's Blossom Hill; 3, G. Fletcher's Buttevant Boy. Pegasus Stakes: 1, L. Dunning's Free Agent; 2 and 3, Miss P. Wilson's Albatross and Lindum Lady. Marlboro Open Jumping Stakes: Equal 1, Miss L. Maddison's The Phaeton and G. Fletcher's The Entertainer; 3, P. Miller's Autumn Venture.

Rackets

Malvern's first and second pairs link up

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Malvern's second pair, P. J. Rosser and A. J. B. McDonald came through the qualifying competition to join their first pair, P. C. Nicholls and M. A. Taug, the holders, in the schools rackets championships which began at Queen's Club yesterday. Clifton's second pair, N. B. F. Hubbard and J. C. Bayne-Jardine also qualified and the remaining two places for second pairs will go to Marlborough or Eton, Tonbridge or Harrow.

Rosser and McDonald, both left handers, won the colts title last year and are more than useful in senior company. They were far too sound for Rugby II, T. R. Debenham and J. A. Anton whom they beat by 15—6, 15—7, 15—0, 15—1. Rosser doing most of the damage with his serving and quick eye for an opening. Malvern now meet Rugby's first pair A. M. Pick and A. J. R. Gates.

Clifton's win over Winchester II, J. Noble and A. Romanes, was a very one-sided affair.

QUALIFYING COMPETITION: First round: Eton II (N. E. C. Barham and C. B. Pease) beat Haileybury II (T. Wakeley and L. Dimpley), 18—11, 15—8, 15—6, 17—14; Tonbridge II (C. G. Rooce and K. D. Tutt) beat Wellington II (W. S. Maltby and P. C. C. Mallinson), 15—13, 15—12, 16—13, 16—3, 17—15. Second round: Malvern II (P. J. Rosser and A. J. B. McDonald) beat Rugby II (T. R. Debenham and J. A. Anton), 15—6, 15—7, 15—0, 15—1; Clifton II (N. B. F. Hubbard and J. C. Bayne-Jardine) beat Winchester II (J. Noble and A. Romanes), 15—1, 15—1, 15—2, 15—2.

COLTS COMPETITION: First round: Malvern (P. Clarke and C. J. Martin-Smith) beat Wellington (J. P. W. Love and J. C. Mallinson), 17—16, 15—11, 15—3; Winchester (M. J. A. Macdonald and R. W. Evans) beat Tonbridge (C. R. Tegate and A. Bett), 15—3, 15—13, 13—1; Radley (C. J. Sutton and A. G. T. Pepper) beat Marlborough (R. D. Abbott and M. S. Field), 15—3, 17—14, 15—7; Eton (D. J. C. Faber and A. D. Pease) beat Rugby (J. L. Chaplin and J. J. Cozens-Hardy), 15—0, 15—0, 16—13.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions off Piste	Piste	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	20	170	Good	Heavy	Fine	7
Disappointing fresh snowfall						
Champéry	20	62	Fair	Powder	Snow	—
Good snow, poor visibility						
Crans	10	55	Fair	Varied	Snow	-2
Some powder, poor visibility						
Flaine	45	145	Good	Varied	Snow	-4
Improved skiing conditions						
Isola 2000	140	180	Good	Heavy	Fine	11
Snow melting in afternoon						
Les Ménuires	95	170	Fair	Varied	Sun	4
Some lower slopes becoming bare						
Sauze d'Oulx	10	50	Poor	Varied	Fine	11
Bare patches on lower slopes						
Tignes	40	100	Fair	Heavy	Cloud	0
Worn patches on lower slopes						
Val d'Isère	30	135	Fair	Varied	Fine	1
Upper slopes still good						
Wengen	23	90	Good	Powder	Fine	5
Excellent skiing everywhere.						

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth State (cm) of L U	Piste	Weather —	°C		Depth State (cm) of L U	Piste	Weather —	°C
FRANCE					Lillehammer	60 70	Good	—	—
Auron	80 180	Good	Cloud	—	Norefjell	90 95	Good	—	—
Bonnetal	60 150	Good	Cloud	—	Oslo	60 70	Good	—	—
La Plagne	50 150	Good	Cloud	—	Rjukan	90 105	Good	—	—
Les Arcs	95 140	Good	Sun	—	SPAIN				
Superdévoluy	30 210	Good	Cloud	—	Baqueira-Beret	15 250	Good	Sun	—
NORWAY					Cerler	40 60	Good	Sun	—
Fhsja	230 230	Good	—	—	Formigal	— 150	Good	Sun	—
Geilo	50 60	Good	—	—	La Molina	— 70	Good	Sun	—
Gol	65 75	Good	—	—	Panticosa	— 120	Good	Sun	—
					San Isidro	120 230	Good	Sun	—
					Solynieve	45 95	Good	Sun	—

Richards leads recovery

Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 26.—West Indies resume their first innings against India in the second cricket Test here tomorrow having been saved from disaster by a fine century from Vivian Richards. Today is a rest day in the match.

WEST INDIES: First innings

R. G. Fredericks, b Madan Lal	..	0
L. G. Rowe, b M. Amarnath	..	4
I. V. A. Richards, b Bedi	..	160
A. I. Kallicharran, c Madan Lal, b Bedi	..	17
†C. H. Lloyd, b Chandrasekhar	..	7
†D. L. Murray, c Kirmani, b Bedi	..	46
B. D. Julien, run out	..	28
D. A. J. Holford, not out	..	3
M. A. Holding, not out	..	1
Extras	..	4
Total (7 wkts)	..	327

A. M. E. Roberts, R. R. Jumadeen to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—0, 2—4, 3—39, 4—52, 5—174, 6—210, 7—256.

For the record

Tennis

PALM SPRINGS, California: A. Ashe beat C. Richey, 6—3, 6—3; J. Newcombe (Australia) beat C. Drysdale (S Africa), 6—2, 7—5; N. Ssiase (Romania) beat R. Stockton (USA), 6—0, 6—0, 7—6; R. Tanner beat B. Fairlie (New Zealand), 6—3, 6—4; R. Laver (Australia) beat M. Estep, 6—1, 6—3; C. Connors beat R. Lutz, 6—2, 6—3; B. Borg (Sweden) beat S. R. Smith, 7—6, 7—5; J. Alexander (Australia) beat R. Ramirez (Mexico), 6—2, 6—3.

BOSTON: Mrs E. Cawley (Australia) beat Mrs K. Reid (Australia), 6—3, 6—2; Miss R. Casals beat Miss L. Hunt (Australia), 6—3, 6—1.

VALENCIA: Quarter-final round: K. Johansson (Sweden) beat C. Barazzutti (Italy) 6—4, 6—7, 11—9; F. Jaufret (France) beat A. Gimenez (Spain), 7—5, 6—3, 6—1; A. Munoz (Spain) beat J. Gisbert (Spain), 7—6, 6—7, 6—0; M. Orantes (Spain) beat B. Phillips-Moore (Australia), 6—2, 6—1.

Swimming

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island: US Collegiate Championships: 200m individual medley: 1, L. Engstrand, 1min 50.15sec; 2, D. Wilde (GB), 1.50.62.

Boxing

BRISBANE: Commonwealth light-heavyweight championship: Tony Mundine (holder) beat Baby Boy Rolle (Bahamas), knockout in third.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Flyers 4, New York Rangers 1; Boston Bruins 4, Chicago Black Hawks 2; St Louis Blues 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 2.

WORLD ASSOCIATION: Quebec Nordiques 7, Edmonton Oilers 5; Indianapolis Racers 4, Houston Aeros 3; San Diego Mariners 9, Cincinnati Stingers 1.

Curling

DULUTH, Minnesota: World championships: United States 5, Sweden 4; Scotland 8, France 3; United States 8, Italy 3; Switzerland 5, Sweden 6; Canada 3, Scotland 6.

Golf

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Open: 136, Mya Aye (Burma), 66, 70; 137, B. Arda (Philippines), 66, 71; 138, M. Harnett, 69, 71; Hsu Chi-San (Taiwan), 69, 69; 139, M. Bembridge (GB), 68, 71. GB non-qualifiers: 150, P. Beames, 76, 74; 153, P. Wilcock, 78, 74.

Skiing

CORNO ALLE SCALE, Italy: Women's European Cup, giant slalom: 1, D. de Agostini (Switzerland), 1min 23.32sec; 2, L. Eberle (Austria), 1min 23.75; 3, M. Schlechter (Austria), 1min 23.95.

Weekend fixtures

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

First division

Aston Villa v Stoke
Coventry v Newcastle
Derby v Birmingham
Ipswich v Everton
Leeds v Arsenal
Liverpool v Burnley
Manchester U v Middlesbrough
QP Rangers v Manchester C
Tottenham v Sheffield U
West Ham v Norwich
Wolverhampton v Leicester

Second division

Blackburn v Notts County
Blackpool v Plymouth
Bolton v Chelsea
Bristol Rovers v Oxford U
Carlisle v Bristol C
Fulham v Oldham
Hull v York
Luton v Charlton
Nottingham F v Orient
Portsmouth v West Bromwich
Sunderland v Southampton

Third division

Aldershot v Shrewsbury
Cardiff v Millwall
Chesterfield v Rotherham (3.15)
Crystal Palace v Bury
Gillingham v Chester
Grimsby v Southend
Hereford v Brighton
Peterborough v Halifax
Port Vale v Walsall
Sheffield Wed v Colchester
Swindon v Mansfield
Wrexham v Preston

Fourth division

Barnsley v Bradford C (3.15)
Bournemouth v Workington
Crewe v Northampton
Darlington v Newport
Exeter v Huddersfield
Hartlepool v Swansea
Rochdale v Brentford
Torquay v Doncaster

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Old Actonians v Old Aldenhamians; Old Carthusians v Old Foresters; Old Chelmsfordians v Old Bradfieldians; Old Salopians v Old Chigwellians; Old Westminsters v Old Wellingburians.

Scottish premier division

Ayr v Hibernian
Celtic v Motherwell
Dundee U v Aberdeen
Hearts v Dundee
St Johnstone v Rangers

FA TROPHY: Semi-final round: First leg: Scarborough v Enfield; Stafford Rangers v Runcorn.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Alton v Lewes; Edmonton-Haringey v Hounslow; Egham v Chesham; Erith and Belvedere v Grays Athletic; Leyton Wingate v Rainham Town; Marlow v Ruislip; Redhill v Addiscome; Worthing v Letchworth.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Dulwich v Dagenham; Hitchin Town v Sutton United; Leatherhead v Wycombe Wanderers; Oxford City v Ilford; Slough Town v Hendon; Southall and Ell v Walthamstow Avenue; Stelnes Town v Barking; Wokingham Town v Bishop's Stortford. Second division: Aveley v Hornchurch; Bromley v Harwich and Parkeston; Chesham United v Hertford Town; Croydon v Boreham Wood; Harrow Borough v Corinthian-Casuals; Maidenhead United v Hampton; Walton and Hersham v St Albans City; Ware v Carshalton; Whitehall Athletic v Wokingham Town.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round: Eastbourne Town v Horsham (at Lewes).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor City v Gainsborough; Barrow v Matlock; Buxton v Fleetwood; Lancaster v Goole; Mossley v Northwich Victoria; Nothenfield v Macclesfield; Skelmersdale v Gateshead; South Liverpool v Boston United; Worksop v Morecambe.

Scottish Spring Cup fourth round

Airdrie v East Fife
Alloa v Kilmarnock
Berwick v Falkirk
Cowdenbeath v Dunfermline
Dumbarton v Arbroath
E Stirling v Stirling Alb
Forfar v St Mirren
Meadowbank v Partick
Montrose v Morton
Queen of South v Clydebank
Queen's Park v Hamilton
Raith v Clyde
Stenhousemuir v Albion
Stranraer v Brechin

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedford v Maidstone; Cambridge City v Margate; Dover v Ilyth; Dunstable v Aldershot; Hillingdon v Gravesend; Nuneaton v Burton; Slough v Wimbledon; Tonbridge v Chelmsford; Weymouth v Yeovil; Weymouth v Cranham. First division: North: Barnet v Mornay; Tyrell; Cheltenham v Bromsgrove; Corby v Barry; Enderby v Kidderminster; King's Lynn v Witney; Milton Keynes v Alvechurch; Redditch v Gloucester; Stevenage v Bury Town; Tamworth v Bembury, South: Basingstoke v Metropolitan Police; Bexley v Andover; Crawley v Romford; Dartford v Trowbridge; Dorchester v Hastings; Folkestone v Sheppey v Ashford; Minehead v Guildford/Dorking; Poole v Watermouville; Salisbury v Ramsgate.

Rugby Union

County Championship Final
Middlesex v Gloucestershire (at Richmond, 3.15)
Inter Services match
Royal Navy v RAF (at Twickenham)
Welsh Cup
Semi-final round
Ebbw Vale v Llanelli (at Swansea)
Club matches
Aberavon v Newbridge
Aldershot Services v Plymouth Alb
Bedford v Blackheath
Birmingham v Esher
Bradford v Wasps
Bristol v Russell Park (3.15)
Broughton Pk v Nottingham
Cardiff v Newport
Gosforth v Birkenhead Pk
Glamorgan Wdrs v Maesteg
Glasgow Acads v Jordanhill
Gloucester v Saracens
Gosforth v Watsonians
Halifax v Hull & ER
Harrogate v Nuneaton
Leicester v Sale
Liverpool v Cheltenham
London Irish v Coventry
London Welsh v Marlequins
Melrose v Selkirk
Morley v O Edwardians
Moseley v London Scottish
Rugby v Bletchley (3.15)
New Brighton v Headingley
Northampton v Waterloo
Northern v Metro Police
Orrell v Manchester
Oxford v Weston-super-Mare
Redruth v Torquay Alli
Richmond v Bath (1.0)
Rugby v West Hartlepool
St Mary's Hosp v Bridgwater & A
Somerset Police v Exeter (2.30)
Sth Wales Police v Cross Keys
Tabernacle v Pontypridd (2.45)
Tredegar v Penarth
US Portsmouth v Streatham/C
West of Scotland v Fylde

Rugby League

Cup, semi-final round
Featherstone R v Widnes (at Swinton)

Hockey

INTERNATIONAL QUADRANGULAR (Cardiff): Wales v Scotland (2.0); West Germany v Ireland (4.0).

LONDON LEAGUE (2.45): Guildford v Bromley; Hounslow v Surbiton; Maidenhead v Southgate; Mid-Surrey v Hampstead; Old Kingstonians v Slough; Richmond v Beckenham; Spencer v Dulwich; Teddington v Blackheath; Tulse Hill v Hawks; Wimbledon v Reading.

EAST LEAGUE: Premier Division: Bury St Edmunds YMCA v Welwyn Garden City.

OTHER MATCHES (2.45): City of Oxford v Swindon; Maidstone v Cliftonville; Metropolitan Police v Gore Court; Old Tamaroians v Worthing; Tunbridge Wells v Cheam.

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: BUSF v England Under-23 (York, 2.0).

WOMEN'S COUNTY MATCHES: Buckinghamshire v Worcestershire (Bisham Abbey, 2.45); Leicestershire v Cambridgeshire (Loughborough, 2.45).

Cross Country Running

England Schoolboys Championships (at Havant).

Golf

John Cross Bowl Open Amateur Tournament (at Worplesdon); Sundridge Park GC v London University.

Rackets

Public Schools Doubles Championship (Queen's Club, West Kensington, 10.30).

Eton Fives

Kinnaird Cup Amateur Championship (at Eton, 11 am).

Netball

Northern Ireland v England (at Belfast).

Lacrosse

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Buckhurst Hill v Purley; Croydon v Lee; St Heller v Hampstead.

NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Ashton v Urmston; Boardman & Eccles v Sheffield University; Cheadle v Old Waconians.

Road Running

Thames Valley Harriers open relay (Cranford, 3.0); Watford open 6 miles race (Watford, College of Tech, 3.0); Romford half marathon (3.0).

Race Walking

AAA 10,000 metres championship (West London Stadium, 2.30); Cambridge Harriers 10 miles (at Bexley).

Rowing

Head of the River Race (at Putney).

Tomorrow

Rugby Union

WELSH CUP: Semi-final round: Pontypool v Swansea (Cardiff).

CLUB MATCH: West Hartlepool v Metropolitan Police.

KENT CUP FINAL: Maidstone v Sidcup (Blackheath RFC).

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Bradford Northern v St Helens (3.30); Hull Kingston Rovers v Dewsbury (2.45); Huddersfield v Swinton (3.30); Keighley v Warrington; Wakefield Trinity v Leeds (3.30).

SECOND DIVISION: Batley v Rochdale Hornets; Blackpool Borough v New Hunslet; Hull v Barrow; Leigh v Doncaster (3.30); Workington Town v Ruyton; York v Whitehaven.

Hockey

INTERNATIONAL QUADRANGULAR (Cardiff): Scotland v Ireland (10.0); Wales v West Germany (12.30).

DIVISIONAL MATCHES: West v East (Marlborough College, 2.45); West Under-21 v East Under-21 (Marlborough College, 3.15).

SOUTH LEAGUE: Hampshire-Surrey region: Havant v Merton.

LONDON LEAGUE: Old Kingstonians v Bromley.

SERVICE MATCHES: Army v Travellers (Aldershot, 2.45); Army Under-21 v Guildford (Aldershot, 11.0).

OTHER FIXTURE: London sixes tournament (Chiswick, 1.15, final, 6.15).

Lacrosse

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: South of England v Lancashire (Buckhurst Hill ground, Roding Lane, Buckhurst Hill, Essex).

Television highlights

BBC 1
Football: Preview (12.35).
Racing: Flat season preview (1.0); Newbury races at 2.0, 2.30, 3.5.
Badminton. England v Indonesia (1.15).
Show jumping: Northwood meeting (1.30, 2.40, 3.30, 4.30).
Weightlifting. England v France (2.10).
Rugby League: Featherstone Rovers v Widnes (3.10, 3.50).
Football—Match of the Day (10.10).

IBA
Football: Preview (12.35).
Diving: Mexico v US, Acapulco (1.0).
Racing: Hexham races at 1.30, 2.0, 2.30: Doncaster races at 1.45, 2.15, 2.55.
Badminton: All-England championships (3.10).
Wrestling: Nottingham promotion (4.0).

IBA—tomorrow
Football: Big Match (2.10).

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

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Banks warned to be on guard against breach of currency rules

By Our Financial Staff

After a week during which it became known that the authorities have been conducting a clampdown on currency fraud, the Bank of England last night issued a warning to all leading banks to be on their guard against breaches of the exchange control regulations.

All authorized banks—and there are about 250 operating in Britain, including the overseas branches of foreign banks—have been "reminded of the risk" that foreign currency securities could be represented as being eligible for the investment dollar premium when in fact they do not qualify.

The Bank stresses that it is not changing the rules in any way, but simply, after a week in which the question of currency frauds has been widely publicized, reminding people what the rules are.

Three cases have come into the open this week—all, according to the authorities entirely unconnected. The Director of Public Prosecutions is expected to receive a report shortly on work done by Treasury officials in connexion with breaches of the exchange control regulations believed to involve several million pounds.

Earlier in the week Lewis Altman & Co, a London stockbroking firm, was suspended from trading by the Stock Exchange Council after the withdrawal of its permission to deal in foreign securities by the Treasury.

The third case concerned Thames Guarantee, a small secondary bank. On news that the bank was being put into compulsory liquidation and that the Bank of England and two leading shareholders were looking at ways in which the interests of some of its 400 depositors who are owed around £1m could be protected, it became known that the Treasury was looking at what might have been material breaches of the foreign exchange regulations.

Simply, these regulations are there to stop sterling being exported without permission. One mechanism is the use of the investment currency premium which means that a surcharge, at present around 50 per cent, must be paid if sterling is taken overseas for investment.

If the money is then brought back to this country, 25 per cent of the disposal proceeds coming back are exchanged back into sterling at the prevailing rate of exchange, while the remaining 75 per cent is eligible to reclaim the premium.

One danger is that funds are taken out of Britain illegally without any payment of the premium, and then brought back in when the 25 per cent bonus applies, giving a substantial profit.

Thus, the Bank of England is particularly asking authorized banks to check the authenticity of instructions to sell foreign currency securities, including OSA (overseas sterling area) securities with the benefit of the premium in the cases where "instructions come from an unfamiliar customer-source, or are for unusually large amounts in relation to the source".

Banks are being asked to bring to the notice of the Bank of England abnormal selling orders and cases where customers are normally only sellers.

Trafalgar House to acquire Ritz as hotel flagship with £2.7m bid

By Margaret Walters

The angels were not dining at the Ritz yesterday. Instead there was the more corporeal figure of Mr Victor Matthews, managing director of Trafalgar House Investments, engaged, over lunch, in the somewhat less celestial business of putting the finishing touches to his group's unexpected £2.7m takeover of one of London's most celebrated hotels.

The Ritz of Piccadilly, with its famous, now preserved, facade was founded in 1906 by Mr Cesar Ritz, whose son is still on the board. The family still operates the Paris Ritz.

Trafalgar House, the £130m group, which owns the QE 2, has a chain of six London hotels. They include the Cunard International at Hammersmith, the London International in the Cromwell Road and the Bristol, situated at the group's Berkeley Street headquarters, which is, coincidentally, opposite the Ritz.

Mr Matthews said yesterday that plans for the Ritz would involve expenditure of around £2m. The present 120 bedrooms, renowned for their marble mantlepieces and brass bedsteads would be expanded to 200, and some of them would be modernized.

The hotel, with its illustrious reputation, would benefit from more extensive marketing, particularly with American clients who account for some 80 per cent of the [illegible]'s prestige cruise passenge[illegible]

Four of the six directors, who include Sir Charles Core, a major shareholder in the hotel for some years, will leave after the takeover.

The board, of which chairman, Sir Guy Brace-Smith, has accepted the £[illegible] share offer for the 85 per cent holdings of ordinary preferred ordinary under control. A formal document will be sent to the other shareholders shortly.

The Ritz has been having discussions with potential purchasers for over a year. In 1975 it made £30,000 loss, after only a very small profit the previous year. Losses are understood to be still running at £3,000 a week.

It is felt that the capacity of the Ritz is at an uneconomic level in present circumstances. The final bill for refurbishing the interior could reach £4m.

In recent years the Ritz has been more celebrated for its elegance and excellent service than for its cuisine. The Egon Ronay guide to London hotels has not rated it as one of its de luxe hotels for some time, although it tops the list for the Grade 1 establishments.

The guide refers to the hotel's Louis XVI restaurant interior, and its famous facade "that brings the Rue de Rivoli to Piccadilly". This is the rather uplifting observation, for these inflation-conscious days, that guests can bring servants.

It is still noted for its clientele. Mrs Jacqueline Onassis, for example, stayed there when she visited London a few weeks ago.

The value of the Piccadilly site upon which the hotel stands is estimated at between £3m and £5m. Mr Matthews said yesterday that it would be a good investment for his group.

Although a future redevelopment could not be ruled out the intention was to maintain, and restore the character of the hotel, which would become a flagship for Trafalgar's hotel division. He did not yet have any clear idea what would happen to the basement area used, until its closure last year, as the hotel's grill room.

Mr Jimmy Goldsmith, chairman of Cavenham and now Slater, Walker Securities, at one point entered negotiations with the Ritz with a view to opening a new discotheque there. Mr Matthews suggested that the area could well house conference facilities in the future.

He added that the purchase of the Ritz gave a much greater appeal to any possibility of expanding Trafalgar's 22 per cent interest in the Savoy chain—which apart from the Savoy controls Claridge's and the Connaught.

German President in Ahmed 'top circle'

Continued from page 1

Another reference, provided in April 1974, signed by Mr E. Swaelen, now secretary general of the same bank, provided to the Liberty National Bank of Oklahoma City, described Finance Intercontinental as "a highly respectable London company well known to us."

It went on: "I understood from our telephone conversation that this company's name has been mentioned to your client, American Airlines, as being capable of taking up very important obligations in the general field of hotel construction and financing.

"I am sure that Finance Intercontinental is capable of taking up such obligations for any amounts within reasonable bounds that would be needed to fund American Airlines' hotel construction programme however ambitious the latter may be."

Mr Swaelen yesterday declined to discuss these matters on the grounds that they concerned the affairs of a client.

It is curious that Mr Naessens and Mr Swaelen were able to write reference letters in these terms, because within months the same Belgian bank told a German bank that it could not provide any information on Finance Intercontinental. It said that Mr Ahmed did not have an account on its books and it was not therefore possible to provide an opinion based on his financial circumstances and his business methods.

"We can say, nevertheless, that the contracts which certain members of our management have had with him have been very satisfactory", it added.

The early glowing references contrast sharply with at least one provided by a London banker asked to report on Mr Ahmed's sponsored Finance Intercontinental, as well as this later reference from Belgium.

Last night there was still a mystery about the relationship between Mr Ahmed's London operations and a Dutch company, Comtrax NV, discussed yesterday in *The Times*. Further investigations in Amsterdam have disclosed that Comtrax, registered in 1967 and dissolved by its directors in April, 1971, also connects Prince Bernhard with Mr Ahmed.

According to Mr Guillaume Meertens, a director, the company was started at the request of Mr Ahmed, involving the introduction of Prince Bernhard. The name of Comtrax is an unusual one, for, as a private company founded in the 1930s, it was used as cover for Dutch wartime resistance operations.

The new Comtrax, set up to engage in financing other companies at home and abroad, provided power of attorney to Shaikh Khaleel Ahmed, a nephew of Mr Ahmed and operating from the Kingsway office of Finance Intercontinental. The power authorized Mr Khaleel Ahmed to represent Comtrax outside and within Amsterdam for negotiating business deals.

Any dealings involving Prince Bernhard were not known to Mr Meertens. The structure of Comtrax had been changed at Mr Ali Ahmed's request. Mr Meertens said he broke with Mr Ahmed after working on a Saudi Arabian housing project.

Mr Meertens added that he had introduced Mr Ahmed to Prince Bernhard in 1966 and he had also introduced Mr Edmund de Rothschild to both the prince and Mr Ahmed.



Mr Ali Ahmed at his North London home yesterday.

If any transactions had taken place concerning the prince, then they were without his. Mr Meertens's, knowledge, Comtrax, according to his lawyer, still exists, although it is not registered at the local chamber of trade.

A spokesman for the Royal Palace said yesterday that Prince Bernhard was a private friend of Mr Ahmed, who lives in Mill Hill, London. The prince met Mr Ahmed regularly, but had no business association with him. This is, however, contradicted by other evidence, including a hand written letter, acknowledged by Mr Ahmed to be genuine, written on October 17, 1973, to King Hassan II of Morocco by Prince Bernhard.

This letter reads, "Your Majesty, The object of this personal letter is to introduce Mr Feuring, the general director of Europahotel International. They have entered into an agreement of collaboration with my good friend Shaikh Ali Ahmed of London.

"The purpose is to construct hotels in your country. Your tourist organization has proposed to them to work together in this housing programme. This has our full support. I would be grateful for any support from your government to secure realistic agreements on both projects.

"Hoping this finds you well. I remain with my best wishes and warm regards, yours sincerely, Bernhard."

Inquiries make it clear that the friendship with Prince Bernhard and Herr Scheel smoothed Mr Ahmed's path in many business negotiations.

One who told of top contacts in such countries as the Philippines, Indonesia, Pakistan and Uruguay, said: "He certainly knew these people, you know, not intimately, but he could get through to them.

"But I think mainly because of his little circle of friends, which is Prince Bernhard and Herr Scheel, because he would tell them to give him introductions and he would get introductions at the highest level. So whether he knew these people or not, he was able to get to them."

Mr Anderson, an influential businessman since serving as United States Treasury Secretary under President Eisenhower, was introduced to Mr Ahmed in the mid-1960s by Mr Rabb, who was secretary to President Eisenhower's Cabinet and is now a top lawyer in New York. Mr Rabb's name is given on the share register in London for Finance Intercontinental.

Mr Ahmed made a claim to Mr Anderson that he had a great deal of money to invest in projects, but these must be outside the United States for tax reasons. Deals were discussed and they met from time to time, but nothing ever came of the talks.

New York business circles speak of the air of mystery surrounding Mr Ahmed, who would turn up in different parts of the world and meet business associates in London at the Waldorf and Dorchester hotels (though once a meeting was held in a London park).

Among deals that Mr Anderson is known to have discussed with Mr Ahmed without any outcome were a deep water harbour scheme for Malta, a food packaging project in Yugoslavia and another in Europe.

The fact is that high level people and reputable firms, whether unwittingly or not, have been associated with Mr Ahmed in numerous and varied projects based on his claims to command substantial funds. He has declined to discuss the details of any projects, whether successful or not. They have involved hotels, fertilizer plants, food factories, roads and low cost housing in developing countries.

Italy finance chief may be charged

Signor Ferdinando Ventriglia, director general of the Italian Treasury Ministry, may be charged with falsifying balance sheets while he was joint managing director of Banco di Roma one of the three big banks of the state-owned IRI group.

An investigating magistrate has informed him of the possible charges, and similar warnings have been sent to Signor Giovanni Guidi, at present joint managing director of Banco di Roma, and another senior official of the bank.

The investigations are reported to concern the use made by the bank of the secret reserves which in past years it used to maintain outside the official accounts—a practice engaged in in by numerous Italian banks.

New £800m issue of short late 'tap' stock

By Tim Congdon

A new shortdated "tap" issue was announced yesterday by the Bank of England. It amounts to £800m and will be known as Treasury 9¾% 1981.

Gross redemption yield at the issue price of £95¼ per £100 nominal is 13.94 per cent and the flat yield is 10.21 per cent. Dealers say that these terms were roughly in line with the market.

The shorter end of the gilt-edged market has been without a "tap" stock since January 7. The authorities issued Treasury 9¾% 1980 on January 15; but demand was so heavy that it was exhausted before it could be operated as a "tap".

Absence of a "tap" here has money supply in recent of the as the Government has been obliged to cover its financial deficit by the issue of Treasury bills.

At yesterday's Treasury bill tender the average rate fell, but not by enough to trigger a further decline in minimum lending rate.

The market's reaction to the "tap" announcement was fairly quiet, although it had not been widely expected. Most shortdated stocks lost 1-16 or ⅛ point, while long-dated stocks showed falls of as much as ¼ point on the day.

Small sales of stock have been made by the Government broker in the last fortnight, but it is understood that these may be to balance purchases made during the sterling crisis earlier in the month to steady the mar-

Sir Derek Ezra keeps job as head of NCB

Sir Derek Ezra is to keep his job as chairman of the National Coal Board. His present term of office expires in June, but his reappointment is expected to be announced officially on Monday by Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy.

There has been speculation that Sir Derek would not retain the chairmanship. Doubts about his future in the coal industry followed the resignation of Sir Richard Marsh as chairman of British Rail and the dismissal of Sir Monty Finniston as chairman of the British Steel Corporation.

While the chairmen of the state rail and steel organizations have been critical of government attitudes towards the nationalized industries, Sir Derek has built up a close relationship with Whitehall and has been successful in winning support for the revitalization of the coal industry.

Despite two crippling coal strikes during his term of office, the Government has decided that the contraction of the industry will cease. New pits will be developed so that the coal industry can play a major part in meeting Britain's energy requirements in the next decade.

Sir Derek is more readily accepted by the influential mining unions and the Department of Energy than the more recalcitrant leaders of the rail and steel concerns.

It remains to be seen whether Sir Derek, who is 57, is offered a five-year appointment, carrying an annual salary of £23,300.

There has been talk of a shorter term, for which there is a precedent. Sir William Ryland, the Post Office Corporation's chairman, is at present serving a three-year renewal after some controversy over his reappointment in 1974.

Officially, the Department of Energy, which is consulting trade unions about potential names for state jobs (and has mentioned Sir Derek's job), is only stating that Mr Benn "will be making an announcement about the chairmanship of the National Coal Board in due course."

Against the background of the recent controversies surrounding major state appointments, Sir Ronald McIntosh, director general of the National Economic Development Office, is preparing a report on the relationship of nationalized industries to ministers and their government departments.

Political hopes boost stock market

This week's trading on the London stock market has borne out the view that a strong advance beyond the 390-420 range on the *FT* Index is just round the corner.

As it became increasingly apparent that a moderate was likely to lead the Labour Party the contest became less of a market issue and over the five days the index advanced more than 16 points to 410.4. Wall Street strength helped sentiment.

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Gas sales drive

British Gas is preparing to expand its sales to commercial concerns when supplies from the Frigg field east of Shetland become available in 1978.

Mr George Claxton, sales director of British Gas, said yesterday that the corporation expected to be selling about 2,000 million therms a year to commercial users by 1980, compared with the current 1,300 million therms annually.

Barclays dollar loan

Barclays Bank International, the overseas arm of Barclays Bank is raising $50m through the issue of 9¼ per cent capital notes, dated 1985. The notes are being issued at par and have been placed privately by Barclays Kol and Co NV, of Amsterdam, a BBI subsidiary. The issue is the second major dollar loan issue by BBI within a year. It raised a similar amount last June.

Beer output falls

Beer production in January was down 16 per cent on the corresponding month last year. This was partly because production was unusually high during the three-day week period in January 1974.

Ship repair yard may be saved

By Peter Hill

Bristol Channel Ship Repairers, which has waged a controversial battle against the Government's plans to acquire its operations as part of the nationalization programme for the shipbuilding and ship repairing industries, emerged last night as the possible saviour of the Greenwell ship repair concern on Wearside.

Greenwell, part of the state-owned North East Coast Shiprepairers Group, is to close down next week with the loss of 500 jobs after acceptance by Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, of an independent report which considered that the drydock company was unviable.

The report noted that on March 11 this year—four days before the report was submitted to Mr Varley's department—interest in the facilities was expressed by Mr J. H. Sorotos of the C. H. Bailey Group of companies.

But in a statement yesterday the Bristol Channel Ship Repairers Group said that its original approach had been made on January 28 this year.

The approach had been made by Bristol Channel, the statement said, and not by C. H. Bailey.

Lampmakers seek inquiry on imports

Electric lamp makers have asked the Department of Trade to investigate sharply increased imports of low-price bulbs from east European countries.

The makers in Britain cut their workforce by 3,000 or 15 per cent two years ago and more redundancies are feared if the Government does not restrict the imports which the Lighting Industry Federation says are being landed in this country at prices that barely cover the cost of materials used.

Imports from countries like Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia began accelerating towards the end of last year, during which 7.5 million bulbs were imported from east Europe against 2.25 million the previous year.

The federation believes imports could reach 30 million this year.

Italian property loss

Società Generale Immobiliare, Italy's biggest property company, yesterday announced a 1975 loss of 86,392,039,359 lire (about £54m at current exchange rates), which together with the 1974 deficit brings accumulated losses to 109,087,619,409 lire (about £68m).

US monthly trade deficit is highest for over a year

Washington, March 26.—America's visible trade deficit widened to $140.8m (about £74m) in February from January's $72.6m deficit, the Commerce Department reported. This was the largest monthly deficit since the $262.1m shortfall in January, 1975.

Exports fell to $8,800.1m in February from $9,103.4 in January and imports dropped to $8,940.9m from $9,176m in January.

The Commerce Department said the deficit in February on a costs, insurance and freight basis was $792.6m compared with January's $776.3m deficit.

Exports in most of the main categories were down, with food and feedstuffs exports declining $138.4m to $1,159.8m, the largest individual declines being registered in wheat, soyabeans and unmanufactured tobacco.

The department said only the machinery and transport sector showed gains last month, rising $32.1m to $3,852.4m as exports of civilian and military aircraft and aircraft parts rose.

Imports of crude petroleum fell to $1,574.2m from $2,052.1m in January. The number of barrels imported dropped to 127.07 million from 167.86 million.

State aid is 'no disgrace', British Leyland chief says

Mr Alex Park, chief executive of British Leyland, which is being propped up with multi-million pound injections of government money, said yesterday: "I find nothing disgraceful about being supported by state money provided we can stand up and be counted on its uses and applications."

Mr Park, who was speaking at a Foreign Press Association lunch in London, said he also believed that Government involvement could lead to more efficiency.

The Government was not providing money to "bail out" the company. It was to be provided for capital investment and to ensure its long-term future, he declared.

"Moreover we are not alone in receiving state aid", Mr Park said. "Major European manufacturers such as Renault, Volkswagen and Volvo were totally or partly financed by their respective governments."

He said Britain's continental counterparts had been more realistic than us in these matters. They realized some time ago that the scale of investment required to sustain a viable and vital vehicle industry demanded funds which only governments could afford to pay.

"If we can be accused of anything it is that in this country we woke up so late to this fact of life and the cost has therefore been higher."

Last year Leyland had lost 12 per cent of production because of strikes, and in the closing months this rose to 15 per cent. But in January and February of this year the figure had dropped to only 4 per cent owing partly to discussions with shop stewards.

British Leyland's greatest problem, Mr Park said, was to produce sufficient cars. "We are in the embarrassing position of having people screaming for cars which we just have not got."

Ford walk-out: Ford Motor Co had to lay off 3,000 men and halt production on the day shift yesterday after 20 solderers—key workers on the Capri line—walked out of the body stamping shop after refusing to carry through some operations.

Cowley peace: For the first time for more than a month the Cowley assembly plant of Leyland Cars is free from industrial action. The 40 cleaners in North works where the Maxi and Princess models are built, yesterday called off their two-day-old strike, abandoned their three-week overtime ban and resumed normal working.

Food planning pacts idea rejected

By Hugh Clayton

Disagreement between food processors and the Government about planning agreements surfaced yesterday, when members of the Food and Drink Industries Council decided at their annual meeting to reject such pacts at company level but to consider talking about them at sectoral level.

But Mr Edward Bishop, Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said that agreements should be made at company level. He told the annual lunch of the council: "For too long we have had a situation where the Government and industry were not sufficiently aware of each other's problems.

"I have sometimes heard it argued that with the new industrial strategy there will be no need for planning agreements since all industries will be able to work to agreed sectoral plans."

He rejected that view because decisions about commercial policy were made at company level. "The bigger companies have immense influence in the areas where they operate, not least in the food and drink industries."

Planning agreements were voluntary, and anyone could pull out at any stage if they disliked developments. "I hope you will give the idea a fair trial", he told the council.

Industry sometimes complained that governments did not appreciate its needs. "We in the Government have sometimes felt that industry was not always fully aware of national needs."

Mr Hector Laing, chairman designate of the council, said the food industry would want evidence of the benefits of planning agreements before entering negotiations about them.

The council revealed that it had fired two shots in the campaign to persuade the Government to relax price controls when the present system expired in the summer. First, as reported in *The Times* on Tuesday, it had proposed margin control on an annual retrospective basis without day-to-day policing of prices by a statutory body with power to veto increases.

Second, it had issued a booklet in which employees in the food processing industry were urged to "argue for a fairer system of price and profit control that will help to secure our jobs by enabling the companies in our industry to make the cash they need".

Mr Laing said that 50,000 copies had been printed. The booklet was meant to be "easily understood by the non-accountant layman". The council wanted to create "a grass-roots climate of opinion so that politicians will be able to modify the Price Code".

The code prevented the industry from investing enough, and West German processors might soon invest more than the British, who had been European leaders for years.

Mr Bishop said a Little Neddy for the food and drink industries would be formed to identify the needs of the sector. He hoped it would examine possible curbs on expansion once the economy recovered.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 167.12 +1.01
The FT index: 410.4 +4.1

Rises

Anglo Am Coal	20p to 385p	Pearl	10p to 232p
Barlow Rand	10p to 190p	Racal Elect	10p to 268p
BP	15p to 611p	Rotaflex	2p to 27p
Braby Leslie	5p to 67p	Steinberg	1p to 12p
De Beers Ind	10p to 410p	Unilever	6p to 450p
Hanimex Corp	12p to 156p	Union Corp	8p to 290p
Messina Trans	8p to 193p	Wilkins & Mit	2p to 27p

Falls

Cater Ryder	5p to 255p	River Plate	2p to 105p
Chesterfield	5p to 108p	Sherman S.	2½p to 6p
Duncan W	5p to 155p	Tricentrol	2p to 58p
Gerrard & Nat	5p to 265p	Utd News	4p to 284p
Henlys	3p to 83p	Western Areas	3p to 195p
Ldn & Euro Grp	2p to 33p	Weyburn Eng	5p to 690p
Reckitt & Col	5p to 330p	Wigfall H	3p to 165p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.60	1.54
Austria Sch	36.00	34.00
Belgium Fr	80.50	77.50
Canada $	1.93½	1.88½
Denmark Kr	11.95	11.55
Finland Mkk	7.60	7.35
France Fr	9.20	8.90
Germany Dm	5.00	4.80
Greece Dr	69.00	65.50
Hongkong $	9.95	9.55
Italy Lr	1655.00	1590.00
Japan Yn	605.00	580.00
Netherlands Gld	5.30	5.10
Norway Kr	10.90	10.55
Portugal Esc	58.00	52.00
S Africa Rd	2.60	2.30
Spain Pes	130.25	124.25
Sweden Kr	8.65	8.35
Switzerland Fr	5.00	4.80
US $	1.96	1.91
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.00	34.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Equities ended the week on a strong note.
Gilt-edged securities had an active session.
Sterling lost 30 pts to $1.9205. The "effective devaluation" rate was 33.8 per cent.

Gold lost $1.75 an ounce to $131.25.
SDR-$ was 1.15544 on Friday while SDR-£ was 0.601072.
Commodities: Reuter's index was at 1294.5 (previous 1298.9):
Reports pages, 21, 22 and 23

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Lloyd's to meet $29m loss

Settlement of the $29m claim over the loss of the Onassis group tanker, Olympic Bravery is now in its final stages. Lloyd's of London approved settlement of the claim in principle earlier this month when the salvage company, which had been retained to try and salvage the tanker from rocks off the Brittany coast, decided that she was a total loss.

The Olympic Bravery, which was on her way from the builder's yard in France to a lay-up berth in Norway when she ran aground, has become the world's most expensive marine casualty.

In a statement yesterday, Lloyd's said that formal settlement by its underwriters had been concluded during the day, and it was anticipated that settlement by London companies and other insurers would shortly be completed

£288m motor exports surplus

Britain's motor industry exports have yielded an impressive favourable trade balance of £288m in the first two months of this year—up by £28m on the same period of last year.

During February the industry exported £243-worth of motor products for every £100-worth of imports, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders reported yesterday.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Unit trusts

Up, up and away—Wall Street funds find their form

Two landmarks have been reached this month. The pound fell through the two dollar mark and the Dow Jones index of American share prices passed through 1,000 on the way up.

These events underline the current prospects of the two economies. America is clearly moving into a traditional election year boom while at home recovery is still beyond the horizon.

Inflation in the United States in recent months has been running at a yearly rate of only 5 per cent, unemployment is falling and industrial production recovering nicely on cue for this year's election.

Wall Street loves a presidential election. In each of the past three election years the stock market has gone up and after the first three months it looks as if 1976 will be no exception.

If that is to be the case, how does an investor buy American shares? My advice is: don't. There are complications to investing in foreign shares that make it unsuitable for all but the largest and most knowledgeable investor.

Whatever your views about unit trusts, you will find they are the ideal medium for investing abroad.

There are now 12 trusts investing exclusively in America, but making a choice is not easy. Only four have been running for more than four years and one of those (now called Lawson American) does not care to be reminded of its past.

Save & Prosper has the oldest and largest fund; Hill Samuel Dollar and Allied Securities of America are medium-sized funds established in the late 1960s; and of the newer arrivals, M & G, Trident and Henderson have attracted the most support.

The performance of these funds over the last one and three year periods is given in Table B. You will see that over three years Hill Samuel Dollar is quite clearly the winner and, in fact, only it and Securities of America have made money for their unitholders during this period.

Over the shorter term Hill Samuel again shows up well but figures for the 15-month period since the start of this "bull" market would show that M & G and Stewart American have made the sharpest recoveries.

Superior performance has not necessarily been a case of picking the right shares. Hill Samuel's success owes more to correct strategic decisions, such as when to hold cash rather than shares, and how to raise the foreign currency for investment.

A study of each trust's leading shares will not help much in making your choice. They tend to be similar and in most cases rather conservative.

Save & Prosper, for example, has 60 per cent of its fund in large companies well known even on this side of the Atlantic, such as IBM, American Telephone & Telegraph and Exxon. These three, plus Du Pont and Eastman Kodak, are in the Trident Fund; Unicorn America has General Motors and Union Carbide; and Securities of America includes Dow Chemical and General Electric —the "blue chips" of American industry, all very safe if a little unexciting. And this is perhaps as it should be. As one manager put it: "When investing at a distance, you need to avoid being taken for a ride by the local operators".

The two funds which have a less conservative investment philosophy, M & G and Stewart American, have also been the most volatile. Both got off to a dreadful start, losing initial subscribers up to 60 and 70 per cent of their money, partly as a result of currency speculations that turned sour. But both have won back some friends by the way they have since recovered.

M & G invests in companies which would be judged large in any other country than America, but the Stewart fund has a number of small companies whose share price might be expected to rise from $1 to $3 in good times and then drop back to $1 in bad times.

Opinions differ over how far to spread the investment risk. Securities of America has more than 100 different holdings and, at the other extreme, Slater Walker's concentrated portfolio contains almost the bare minimum of 20 shares. The more shares a fund has, the closer in dollar terms it might be expected to perform near the average.

How successful any trust proves for the United Kingdom investor will depend at least as much on whether it chooses the best method of raising its foreign currency. There are two alternatives which have in the past produced vastly different results.

The trust can borrow dollars abroad and this allows the greatest flexibility of management, but cancels out any benefit from a weakening pound. The alternative is to buy investment currency. The premium itself is volatile and capricious and may produce gains or losses in addition to the actual performance of the shares. Managers will try to balance the risks of the dollar premium and investment currency and may vary the proportions.

Hill Samuel made large gains through the premium but is now switching the emphasis to loans. But managers are divided over which method offers the best prospects and even over which is the most inherently risky.

There is little disagreement, though, over the prospects for the American stock market. Most expect the "bull" market to continue into 1977 and the chances of the Dow Jones index pushing on to 1,200 or more were thought to be good.

At least, you can be sure that the managers are keeping a close watch on the market. I tried to reach the investment directors of three of the largest funds this week: they were all in America.

But, finally, a word of warning. It is now more than 10 years since the Dow Jones index first touched 1,000 and it has never gone much farther. There have always been good explanations—the Vietnam war, Watergate and so on. But when the prospects now look good, you should remember the first rule of investment and not commit too much of your savings to one basket.

Michael Bayliss

TRUSTS INVESTING IN NORTH AMERICA

	Date launched	Size of fund £m	Number of securities	Minimum investment £	Performance[3] since Mar 1975 %	Performance[3] since Mar 1973 %
Garlmore American	1.76	1.7	40-50	200	—	—
GT US & General	1.74	1.0	35	350[2]	5.6	—
Henderson N America	1.73	5.4	45	427[2]	16.8	—13.2
Hill Samuel Dollar	9.66	8.4	80-85	25	48.7	63.4
Lawson American	4.64[1]	1.2	28	100	—2.4	—37.0
M & G American	12.72	15.0	71	215[2]	38.7	4.5
S & P US Growth	3.84	24.0	63	250	21.1	—5.9
Securities of America (Allied)	3.68	6.8	105	100	31.5	18.2
Slater Walker N America	5.74	0.9	20	250	14.4	—
Stewart American	11.72	3.7	40	500	17.4	—37.8
Trident American	8.74	6.0	56	500	10.9	—
Unicorn America	5.74	3.6	55	198[2]	30.8	—

[1] Taken over and reconstructed by Lawson in March, 1975. [2] Approximate figure (depending on unit price). [3] Offer to bid.

Offers

The continuing high inflow of funds into the building society movement demonstrates just how popular this form of saving is with investors at present.

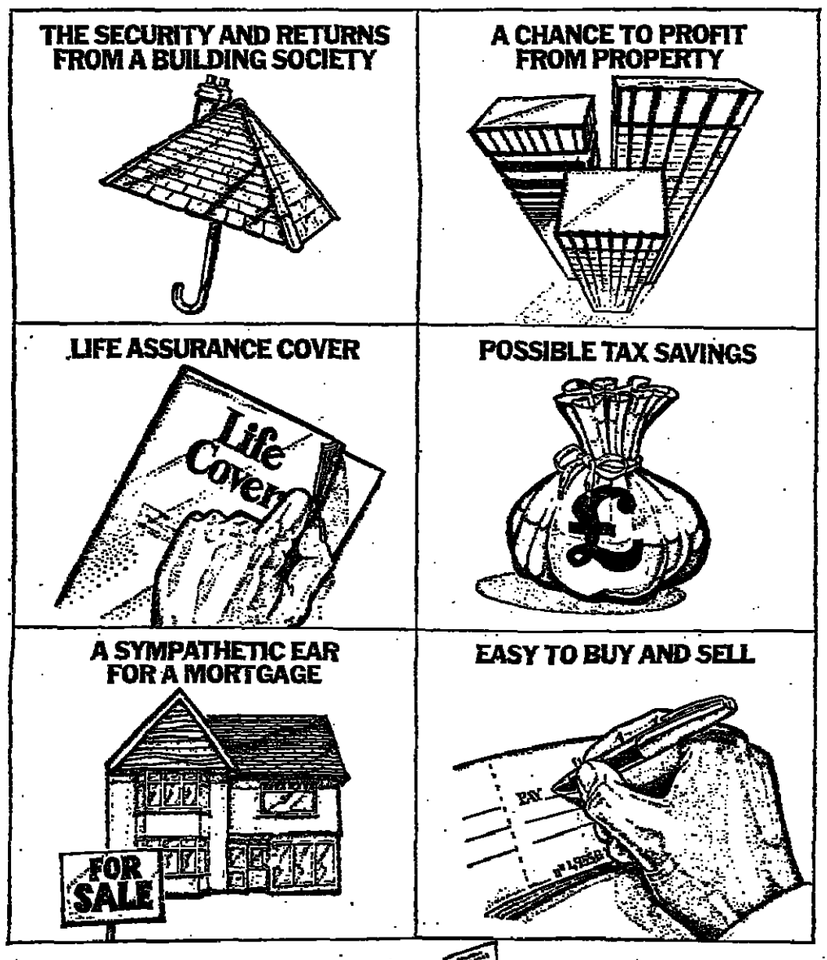
There are building society variations, however, which other investors may wish to consider. One such is the Abbey National Property Growth Fund where half the money is deposited with the Abbey National Building Society and the other half invested in the Property Growth property fund.

On the straightforward unit trust front M & G this weekend is recommending its General Trust Fund. This is the largest fund in the M & G stable and has a record of steady progress.

* * *

A last reminder for readers who wish to take out maximum allocation plans which are high on investment and low on insurance cover. Contracts must be written before midnight on March 31, after which the rules for qualifying policies (which enjoy tax relief on the premiums) change.

NO OTHER INVESTMENT OFFERS ALL THIS



£250 is the minimum investment you can make in Abbey National Property Growth Bonds.

Half the money goes into the Abbey National Building Society to provide a steady return and solid security.

The other half goes into the Property Growth Fund which is invested in sound UK and overseas property situations to benefit from the rents and the capital appreciation.

(This after an initial 5% deduction for management expenses and life cover).

Property Bond values can, of course, fall as well as rise, but the current property revival shows the resilience of such an investment.

Our target is consistent growth over the long term and investors are advised to take such a view.

For the full facts call in at any one of over 375 Abbey National Branches (addresses in Yellow Pages) or clip the coupon.



FREE! 8-page booklet giving all the facts on our Bonds.

T2

ABBEY NATIONAL PROPERTY GROWTH BONDS
111 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JF.



FLYING TO NEW YORK

FARES FROM LONDON EFFECTIVE FROM MAY 1976

Fare class	Adult return £	Child's discount (aged 2 to 12) %	Infant's fare £	Summary of conditions
First class	548	50	52	
Economy c's	292-354	50	29-35	
14-2 day excursion*	237-276.50	50	23-27	
22-5 day excursion*	189-231	50	16-20	
Apex*	136.50-172	33⅓	13.50-17.50	Minimum stay 22 days. Pay 2 months ahead.
ABC	116-150 +2% Govt levy	25 but 10 in July & August	Free	Minimum stay 14 days. Pay 67 days ahead.
Youth fare	193.50-219	None	None	Full time students 12-24 yrs
Concorde (British Airways only)	704 (Washington)†	50	90	

* Supplement of £6 each way if travel is at weekends. Add £1.50 airport tax to all fares.
† Plus $94 (£49.20) first class return Washington-New York.

Talking shop

That's just the ticket . . .

It is no easy matter buying the right long-distance air ticket. Even the experts can be confused by more than eight different fare structures each with different conditions available for the ordinary individual traveller. It is, however, well worth while making the effort to understand the different types of ticket because the savings can be considerable.

It is possible to fly to New York, for instance, for as little as £120 or more than £300 travelling in the same class and type of aircraft operated by the same airline on the same day. International air transport licensing agreements mean that, at least in theory, each airline should charge the same price. The art is in making a choice between the different categories of ticket on offer.

The most expensive way of flying to America is in the Concorde where the return fare from London to Washington has been agreed at £704, representing a 20 per cent surcharge on the first class rate. Of course, Concorde crosses the Atlantic in four hours, half the time taken by conventional jet aircraft. Then here is the $94.44 (£49.20 at laest exchange rate) first class air return Washington-New York.

Offering comfort rather than high speed is the first class return ticket on regular scheduled aircraft which to New York costs £548. This includes free drinks, extra attentive cabin service, a choice of menus and noticeably roomier seats in addition to transportation and extra space.

At the lowest end of the fare price scale are the advance booking charter rates. These special fares are offered by charter organizations including airline subsidiaries as well as independent companies which buy large numbers of seats from the airlines in advance and resell them to passengers who meet special requirements. The main condition is that booking (and payment) has to be made at least 67 days ahead of travel. Cancellation except for sickness (which can be insured against) within this time involves the risk of the full fare being forfeited.

A rival to the ABC system is the advance purchase excursion (Apex) fares structure operated by the airlines themselves, and introduced when ABC's proved so popular that they threatened the scheduled services.

Like ABC's, Apex bookings must be made in advance—two calendar months rather than 67 days, but the cancellation requirements are not so formidable. Passengers who cancel within two months stand to lose only £19.50 or 10 per cent of the air fare. There is, in addition, more flexibility on changes of dates. However, the price is intended to be slightly higher and the minimum period of stay is 22 days against 14 days with the ABC system. There is also an extra charge of £6 if weekend travel is required on the Apex scheme, while several ABC flights run at weekends at no extra cost.

Under the new rates which come into effect this spring, the ABC companies complain that the price difference is too small to make the charter flights competitive. In a number of instances, for instance at the end of June during the [illegible] period to the higher rates, Apex fares may be cheaper than ABC's. For families travelling together, the lower discounts for children may also place the ABC fares at a price disadvantage.

The next best value to the advance booking schemes are the excursion fares which give the maximum freedom, subject to availability, of flight times and allows scope for changes. The shorter and more expensive excursion fare also allows stops to be made in up to four United States towns at no extra cost. Note, too, the 50 per cent discount allowed for children compared with 33⅓ and 25 per cent on the other fares.

Although all airlines are supposed to charge the same, the fare structure is so confused that quotes can vary. Rates vary again between high and low season, for which the dates in turn vary according to the class of ticket.

If you are prepared to take a gamble and the established methods of obtaining a discount do not appeal, it may pay to study the small advertisements, for cheap long-distance travel. I asked three such operators on Wednesday about the prices of cheap air travel to New York and obtained three different prices.

One, Mayfair Travel offered a price of £198 return for a weekday flight to New York, said to be on a scheduled service from London. Another, Jetback, quoted a price of £168 return which involved travelling by coach to Brussels and flying out on Wednesdays. The third, Travel Centre could only offer the ordinary ABC rate of £116, booked 67 days ahead.

Perhaps the best value of all, are a new range of inclusive holidays. Tour operators include TWA who are quoting £165 for a week in New York, and the Jersey Advance Booking Charter company who are quoting prices from £155 for two weeks in New York inclusive of overnight hotel accommodation as well as the return fare to London.

Patricia Tisdall

Insurance

Taking cover: basic points to watch

Beware if an insurance company or a broker offers you a whole life non-profit policy. It's not to say that the seller, necessarily, is up to no good, but it may be of more benefit to his organization than to you.

A whole life policy pays out the sum assured at death—whenever this occurs. A non-profit policy does not share in the company's profits, and so the company simply pays out the sum assured, with no addition, whenever death occurs.

It suits many insurance companies to sell non-profit business. The most popular contracts share in profits—and the bonus rates being declared by most old-established offices are good. But those profits have to be earned, and one of the ways of earning profits is from non-profit business.

Over the past few years, a number of brokers have been selling non-profit whole life business extensively—and reaping very rich rewards. For instance (taking an extreme case), the commission on a whole life non-profit policy for a man aged 20 paying premium of £100 a year has been about £272. Selling a similar policy to a man who is 40 with the same premium could bring in commission of about £132.

As from July 1, the companies belonging to the recognized life associations are changing that, and paying commission based on the premium, rather than on the sum assured. Thus the new rate of commission for both the examples quoted above will be £60.

Already, some offices are anticipating the "saving" in commission which will result and are improving their premium rates for non-profit business. But the drawback to a non-profit policy is that, whatever happens in the future, no more than the sum assured will be paid.

A profit-sharing policy has the advantage that there is a basic guaranteed sum assured, to which bonuses are added from the profits of the insurance company. Gradually, the death benefit builds up. Naturally, however, for a given premium, at the outset, the cover against death will be much higher under a non-profit policy.

To meet the needs of those who want the value for money associated with a profit-sharing contract, coupled with the cost advantage of a non-profit policy, "bonus reinforced" whole life policies are being gradually introduced.

These usually consist of a profit sharing policy for a modest sum assured, "topped up" by decreasing term assurance. The theory is that the overall protection against death stays at much the same level—at least until the later years of the policy. Thus, as the bonuses increase the value of the profit-sharing policy, the claim value of the term assurance decreases.

As an example, one can take the contract issued by the London Life Association, which is not affected by the commission change as the office is one of the few which do not pay commission to anybody for the introduction of business.

The decreasing term assurance decreases at the same rate at 80 per cent of the prevailing bonus rate, thus leaving some safety margin. If, however, bonuses are declared at less than 80 per cent of today's rate (probably unlikely for some time, even taking the most cautious view), there could be a drop in the total cover.

Given a reasonably high sum assured, the total premium for those under the age of 50 should be lower than for a non-profit policy. Provided bonuses are paid at a greater rate than 80 per cent of the rate, the amount paid at death will be higher than from a non-profit policy.

Capital transfer tax is one reason why this type of policy is becoming popular—since, written on a trust basis, it can provide funds to meet CTT at death or can be a medium for lifetime gifts, taking advantage of the various exemptions from the tax.

John Drummond

Unit trust performance

UNIT TRUSTS: Medium and Income funds (progress this year and the past three years). Unitholder index: 1739.6; rise from January 1, 1976: +4.6 per cent.
Average change offer to bid, net income included, over past 12 months: +20.4 per cent; over three years: −9.6 per cent.

MEDIUM	A	B
Scottish Equitable	49.6	—
British Life Balanced	48.3	33.7
Framlington Cap F	46.7	−2.0
Schroder General	45.5	−11.2
M & G Midland	44.7	−3.7
Norwich Union	44.2	—
Barrington	40.0	—
Equity & Law	39.6	6.2
Friends Provident	39.2	9.4
Canlife General	39.1	7.6
Mercury General	39.1	—
Hill Samuel Security	38.6	11.0
Prudential	37.5	−7.5
Hill Samuel British	36.6	4.5
Target Professional	36.4	−11.7
Unicorn '500'	35.5	−8.2
Hill Samuel Capital	35.4	4.2
TSB Scottish	35.1	—
S & P Ebor General	33.8	−15.8
Guardhill	33.5	−4.2
Rowan Securities	33.5	26.7
Lloyd's Life Accum	33.3	—
TSB General	32.5	−2.5
Target Thistle	32.3	−3.5
M & G Trustee	31.9	−6.5
British Life	31.2	3.7
Lloyds Bank First	30.5	−5.3
NPI Growth Accum F	30.2	−6.5
Pearl Unit Trust	30.0	−5.7
Target Equity	29.9	−18.0
SW Hundred	29.8	0.4
Discretionary F	29.5	−2.3
S & P General	29.3	−12.0
SW Unit 'D'	29.2	−11.6
Trades Union	28.9	2.7
Nelstar	28.6	−0.5
Hambro Fund	28.5	−11.5
Tyndall Int Earnings	28.3	—
Allied Capital	27.8	−7.4
Intnl	27.8	8.5
Unicorn Trustee	26.9	−14.3
Tyndall Canynge	26.8	−18.8
Abbey General	26.7	−13.1
National West Growth	26.6	8.4
Allied Growth & Inc	26.4	−10.4
Emblem Fund F	25.8	−26.5
Alben Trust	25.8	−16.4
Mutual Security Plus	25.6	−8.8
Colemco	25.5	12.5
Merlin	25.1	−12.0
Mutual 'Blue Chip'	25.0	−7.1
Allied Bif Second	24.8	−4.2
Lloyds Bank Second	24.8	−8.6
S & P Scotshares	24.5	−18.2
Allied Electrical & In	24.4	−8.1
Unicorn Capital	24.4	−13.0
Family Fund	24.4	3.3
Friars House M	24.3	30.5
Allied First	24.1	−5.2
London Wall Stnghld	23.8	−10.6
Quadrant F	23.8	9.5
Bishopsgate Prog F	23.7	−17.3
SW Scottish	23.7	−16.3
Tyndall Capital	23.4	−20.9
Shenley	23.2	—
Pelican	22.8	−3.5
Prolific	22.8	9.2
Barclaytrust Invest	22.7	—
Equitas	22.7	−18.0
Sebag Capital	22.6	—
Crescent Reserves	21.0	−9.8
Gartmore British	20.7	—
SW Growth	20.6	20.7
Unicorn General	20.0	−17.2
Ariel	19.9	−32.8
G and A	19.3	−6.3
Henderson Inc Assets	19.3	−1.9
SW Security First	19.2	−15.4
Ulster Bank Growth	19.1	−5.7
Barbican	19.0	−18.4
Oceanic Growth	18.8	−39.1
Marlborough	18.4	6.7
Carliol F	17.9	−11.6
Legal & General	17.8	−6.4
London Wall Cap	17.2	−15.1
Wicksmoor	17.1	—
M & G General	16.4	−7.0
SW Domestic	15.8	−32.5
Stewart British	15.8	—
SW Invest General	14.5	−27.0
Ionian Growth F	14.4	−28.2
Brown Shipley	14.3	5.0
SW Provident	14.1	−21.9
Great Winchester M	13.8	−31.4
SW Consolidated	13.6	−1.6
Wieler Growth F	13.5	—
Buckingham	13.1	7.1
Abacus Giants	13.0	−18.8
M & G Sec General	12.6	−11.3
SW Century	12.6	−19.1
Kleinwort Benson F	12.3	10.4
M & G Clyde Gen	10.1	−22.1
SW Commercial	9.2	−20.3
Glen Fund	8.6	−28.2
Oceanic General	7.9	−38.3
Archway Fund M	7.6	−1.6
Minster	6.7	−33.8
Key Private	6.5	−26.5
Cabot F	6.4	−20.0
SW Shamrock	6.4	−35.5
SW Invest Second	6.1	−25.3
SW General	5.7	−33.9
Worldwide	5.6	—
Piccadilly Inc/Gro	1.5	−18.6
Lawson Scottish	1.3	—
Private Portfolio	−1.1	−46.2
Cosmopolitan Growth	−2.6	−56.9
SW Capital Growth	−3.2	−39.9
Portfolio Growth	−4.2	−48.1
Jascot Sect Leads	−6.1	−31.7
S & P High Return	55.1	9.0
Framlington Income	50.8	21.3
Schroder Income F	49.7	16.5
Gartmore High Inc	49.2	—
Gartmore Income	46.6	21.2
M & G Extra Yield	45.8	—
S & P Scotincome	45.0	−3.8
Target Income	44.3	6.2
Hill Samuel Income	43.1	11.9
S & P Ebor Sel Inc F	43.0	7.7
Crescent High Distr	42.0	6.9
M & G Clyde High Inc	41.6	16.4
M & G Dividend	41.4	10.6
Abbey Income	39.4	—
Allied Ham High Yld	39.0	—
London Wall High Inc	38.6	−3.4
Alben Income	37.6	15.9
Hill Samuel High Yld	37.5	−3.9
Unicorn Income	36.4	0.3
British Life Dividend	36.3	−11.9
Sebag Income	35.8	—
Hambro Income	35.4	−4.3
S & P Income	35.4	10.4
S & P High Yield	35.1	10.1
Henderson High Inc	34.3	4.4
Tyndall Natcom Inc F	34.2	−0.9
Ionian Income M	34.1	−5.2
Unicorn Extra Inc	32.4	9.5
S & P Scotyields	32.2	−0.4
Pearl Income	31.8	−3.7
National West Inc	31.7	7.5
Lloyds Bank Third	31.6	3.7
Canlife Income	30.9	31.0
Allied Equity Income	30.7	−5.8
Tyndall Income	28.6	−8.9
Charter Income	28.1	−12.6
Bridge Tails Income	27.5	−14.9
SW High Income	27.0	13.5
Prolific High Inc	25.5	—
GT Income	24.5	—
Midland Dray Inc	24.3	9.9
Allied High Income	24.1	−1.3
Arbuthnot Income	23.6	−7.6
Mutual Income	22.6	−6.4
Oceanic High Income	21.9	−17.0
Royal Trust Inc	19.7	—
SW Nat High Inc	19.4	−4.9
Brandts Income	19.1	1.2
Merlin High Yield	18.9	6.8
Key Income	18.8	−13.3
Mutual High Yield	18.4	11.8
New Court Income	16.4	—
SW Income	12.9	−11.8
Lawson High Yield	12.4	—
Trident Income	10.3	−20.2
SW Brit High Inc	10.0	—
SW Extra Income	9.6	−17.7
Piccadilly Extra Inc	7.7	−19.8

Statistics supplied by Money Management and Unitholder, 30 Finsbury Square, London, EC2.

A: Change since March 27, 1975 to bid, income reinvested.
B: Change since April 1, 1973, offer to bid, income reinvested. Both taken to March 25, 1976.
M: Trust valued monthly.
F: Trust valued every two weeks.

Options

Taking the British investor to Chicago

One of the best ways to make money fast in the stock market—or to lose it for that matter—is to take out a share option.

Take for example a "call" option British style. You have your eye on shares in PPP (Powdered Puree Potatoes), standing at 100p, for you have a hunch that the share price is going to move up sharply. You also have £1,000 gambling money at your disposal.

Rather than buy 1,000 shares, you take out a "call" option, at a cost, say, of 10p a share, allowing you to buy 10,000 shares at the prevailing price within the next three months. Lo and behold your hunch pays off and SSS (Super Soya Steaks) makes a takeover bid for PPP, whose share price promptly jumps to 120p.

You then exercise your option to buy the shares at 100p, immediately sell them at 120p and discover that your £1,000 outlay on the cost of the option has returned you £2,000—10,000 shares x 20p a share profit. On a straight purchase of 1,000 shares, your return would have been only £1,200.

But, you may ask, what would have happened had SSS decided instead to bid for Triple V (Vitamin Vegetable Varieties), leaving PPP shares unchanged at 100p? You might then, assuming you had the money, have taken up your entitlement at a cost of £10,000 in the hope that the day would still come when you could recover your total outlay of £11,000. Or you could have forgotten your option and that you ever had £1,000. High rewards also involve high risks.

If you do not fancy "call" options, you can also try "put" options, an option to sell, or "double" options, offering the right to buy or sell. But if that is not enough, turn your eyes westward. For in Chicago you can find options of varying durations—three, six or nine months—and set at varying "striking" prices—the price at which you agree to buy the shares. More important still, you can also trade in the options themselves.

The Chicago style option market has grown rapidly and both the London and Amsterdam stock exchanges are now investigating the possibilities of setting up a similar market in Europe. But the key factor when the Stock Exchange Council takes its decision shortly, is going to be whether a new game for speculators is likely to damage the Stock Exchange politically.

The Chicago Board Option Exchange would in fact argue that its type of option market can both improve the investor's return and reduce his risk. This is because Chicago style options are created by investors who already hold shares and who "write" options on those shares for other investors to buy.

The attraction of this, particularly for the larger investor, is that option writing offers him the possibility of improving the return of his investment or, depending on how one chooses to look at it, of reducing the cost of his investment.

Say an institution bought PPP shares at 100p and then wrote an option enabling another investor to buy the shares in three months at 115p. Say too that he sold the other investor this option at 10p a share, that the shares rose to 120p and the option was exercised. Although the institution would be selling the shares at 115p against a market price of 120p it would already have made itself an extra 10p a share through the sale of the option, thus giving it a final return of 25 per cent rather than 20 per cent.

If, however, the share price does not rise, and the option is not exercised, then the option writer has a profit of 10p a share or could be said to have reduced his purchase price of the shares to 90p.

Investors are now being offered an opportunity to invest in the American option market through a Jersey based managed fund — Schlesinger American Investments. The fund will, as far as Treasury regulations permit, be a back-to-back fund and will be both writing and trading in options. The aim is long-term capital and income growth and a first year gross dividend of 6p per share is forecast. In total the fund is offering 2.75m redeemable participating preference shares at 100p (including 5p preliminary charge). The minimum limit is £1,000.

Like other overseas investment funds it is exposed to the kind of "topping up" risks that took such a heavy toll in the last bear market. That said, the trust looks an interesting experiment for investors who feel that the present bull market still has some way to run.

John Whitmore

The Times Special Reports.
All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter
THE TIMES

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Investor's week

Market waits • Success story

Ask most people in the stock market what would happen if Mr Michael Foot becomes Prime Minister and they will probably tell you it would cost the *FT* ordinary share index between 30 and 50 points.

Given that widely-held, although perhaps slightly superficial view of the fate awaiting share prices if a left-winger wins the Labour Party leadership race, investors obviously expect Mr Callaghan or possibly Mr Healey to win—and they are putting some money on it.

After the short sharp setback which followed immediately on Mr Wilson's resignation, the market has recovered well. This week the *FT* ordinary index has gained just over 16 points, including yesterday's advance of 4.1 to 410.4. So it is now just 0.2 points above the level before Mr Wilson's decision.

However, activity in the market is still miserably low, and it would be unwise to expect that situation to improve or indeed the level of shares to make much further headway until after the leadership question is resolved and, of course, until after the Budget on April 6.

As we are constantly reminded, and as indeed the evidence of economic decline would seem to show all too clearly, there have been far too few postwar success stories in British business.

At 77, Sir Jules Thorn can claim to be one of the few. He came to this country from Austria in 1928, and this week announced his retirement as chairman of Thorn Electrical Industries, a company which he created and built into a group with profits of above £65m last year and annual sales which are thought to be approaching £1,000m.

The basis of the business was lighting when Thorn broke through the lampmakers' cartel in the 1930s, but the company has never stood still. Diversification has made it one of the largest electrical domestic appliance makers in the country, a major force in television *tam area which has ded a number of problems ntly), a big maker of gas ances and more recently, ugh a string of acquisitions ne of the largest manufacturers of engineering small to m the country.*

Last year profits ped a little from £74m to n, but at the interim stage year they were moving up in and Sir Jules characteically marked his retirem this week by pointing out that the final 1975-76 result ld be pretty good. The "A ares—Thorn is one of the est remaining companies with a substantial non-voting pital—stand at 270p yielding around 3½ per cent prospecti.

On the trail of foreign debtors

Patience is an important virtue for the Council of Foreign Bondholders, whose 102nd annual report emerged last week.

The council's principal object is to protect the interests of holders of sterling bonds publicly issued in the United Kingdom on behalf of foreign governments and authorities.

But its main task lies in chasing up outstanding and defaulted overseas debts to British bondholders—and this can be a long and tortuous business.

Not that the council has been without its successes. Since its formation, it claims to have obtained settlement of debts totalling over £1,000m albeit as a result of negotiations sometimes lasting decades.

The council also reckons the United Kingdom balance of payments benefited by about £3m last year from loan repayments, amortization and interest payments on nearly a dozen settlements negotiated in the past and still operative. The total capital outstanding in these cases is thought to be around £80m.

However the council's boom years of international debt collection successes are long past and in recent years its dedicated efforts to whittle down £144m worth of repudiated sterling loans still outstanding have met with precious little success.

Of this total Rhodesia accounts for nearly £65.75m (though the Rhodesians claim the figure is nearer £46.5m), China nearly £61m, Romania, £11m; Bulgaria £4m, Poland £1.5m and the German Democratic Republic, £750,000.

In addition United Kingdom holdings of Tsarist Russian bonds—repudiated after the revolution — were estimated many years ago to amount to the equivalent of some £50m.

The council reports that during the past year some signs of progress have been seen with regard to both the Romanian and GDR debts. In fact it now seems that only technicalities stand in the way of the Romanian debt after years of negotiation, while an agreement "is contemplated" on the question of East German compensation.

However there is little cause for immediate optimism in either case and actual payment or part payment could remain years away.

Of the other debts in the council's "portfolio", Rhodesian bonds are probably the best known and understood by speculators.

Despite the continuing failure of all attempts to resolve the Rhodesian issue, speculators still cling to hopes of an eventual settlement of around a dozen bonds which went into default in 1965—*the year of* UDI. Trading at considerable discounts the stocks are often a volatile feature on African political news and rumour.

But the Rhodesian ds are by no means the on repudiated stocks capable providing a market.

For example, Chi bonds some dating back as as 1898 and mostly repudiat at the beginning of the last ur have attracted particular rest as a result of the re mencement of diplomatic lations with the West.

The Chinese regime has declared that it has n attention of settling debts inh red by previous regimes but pes continue to flicker as cer East-West relationships a formed.

Even Tsarist bond rade at anything up to £4 er £100 nominal of stock, th any settlement seems o of the question. Here, hower, another factor encourages sentiment: the certificates re said to make very attrac lampshades.

FE

Mortgages



PAYMENT METHOD WITH ALLIANCE

an from building society £16,000 at 12%		
onthly repayment		£170.08
onthly premium for mortgage protection policy		£4.98
		£175.06
x relief on average interest	£40.86	
on life assurance premium	£0.87	
		£41.73
at cost *per month*		£133.33
et cost over 25 years		£39,851
Gross cost over 25 years		£52,339)

ENDOWMENT METHOD WITH SUN LIFE TOP-UP

Loan from Building Society £13,000 at 11¼%		
Loan from Sun Life £3,000 at 12%		
Total monthly interest:		
to Building Society		£121.83
to Sun Life		30.00
Total premiums: Moneysaver		23.75
Endowment Assurance		7.31
		£182.94
Tax reliefs: on interest	£53.15	
on premiums	£5.43	
		£58.58
Total cost over 25 years		£37,308
Estimated surplus bonuses		£2,466
Estimated net outlay		£34 842
(Gross cost over 25 years		£54,882)

Splitting the loan to save money

The larger the loan, the more it is likely to cost. This was the substance of an article I wrote in February detailing the increasingly common building society practice of charging more than the recommended 11 per cent mortgage interest on larger loans.

Since then I have been thinking about the subject again, particularly with a view to finding other methods of house purchase which could help reduce the financial burden on people who require a large loan but are not necessarily wealthy.

Apart from the obvious advice to try to obtain an advance from a society which does not discriminate against borrowers by asking larger loans, another solution is to consider splitting the loan into two: take the principal portion from the building society and then arrange a topping-up loan from an insurance company.

The building society part of the loan has to be repaid by the endowment mortgage method, but even allowing for the extra ¼ per cent this involves, it means that the borrower is able to take the major part of his loan at a cheaper rate than would have been the case with a loan solely from the building society.

The Sun Life has worked out some examples of the cost of a £16,000 mortgage using the alternative method. The building society loan is repaid by a lower cost Moneysaver endowment mortgage (the sum assured is less than the loan but future bonuses are expected comfortably to make up the balance by maturity), while the insurance loan is met by a conventional with-profits endowment policy.

The table showing the difference between paying 12 per cent for a £16,000 loan from the Alliance and the Sun Life topping-up alternative shows that the latter works out at almost £9 a month cheaper in net terms to a basic rate taxpayer, who also has the prospect of a bonus surplus. Higher rate taxpayers would find it a more attractive route still.

MS

watch

The way through shady deals with crackle juice

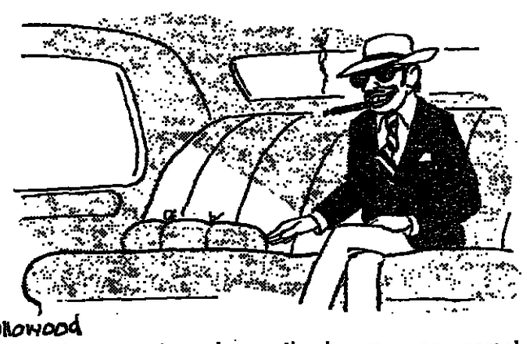
The recent scandals surrounding the Lockheed Corporation prompt me to bare my soul and confess that I too have been known to bribe officials of a foreign government. But my character remains untainted by the experience, I think, however scarred and wizened it may have been by various others in time.

For those who see everything in strict black and white terms, I must choose my words carefully in order not to incur disapproval.

Anyway, ages ago I spent two years running a textile mill in a developing country which perhaps had better remain nameless. The mill was an American concern which had been moved lock, stock and barrel from the United States to the country concerned, when home labour costs became inordinately high. Every stitch of the fabric we produced was exported, and we employed work for over a thousand men in an area of high unemployment. We therefore lay back and prepared to bask in the sunshine of the government's smile.

This was forthcoming in theory all right, but at the practical level the setting up of the company seemed to meet with extraordinary resistance. For example, we found it impossible to obtain the necessary permits for the import of our machinery, even though payment was not to be in cash but in the form of shares in the newly formed company, so that no wicked foreign exchange transaction was involved. We could not understand the reason for this niggling prevarication until it dawned on us that the assistant-under-secretary, who was dealing with our case, needed a little discreet encouragement.

Here we come to the fundamental problem of conducting business in such a place. Everything, absolutely everything,



Hollowood

"When the car returned . . . the brown paper parcel would be gone."

concerning officialdom in any way needs the constant application of crackle-juice to oil the wheels, whether the request itself is perfectly proper or totally illegal. The only difference being that illegal requests come more expensive.

There are three ways of dealing with such a situation. The first is to raise the eyebrows in shocked horror, shake the dust off one's holy feet, and tiptoe home. The second is to go overboard and bribe everyone for everything, regardless. We took the third course whereby one had to act as one's own judge and jury, only using bribery as a means where the end was both legal and ethical.

The techniques we employed were a great deal more refined than what others are alleged to have been up to; sending crates of notes to people and exchanging little brown envelopes in the gentlemen's lavatory. That kind of thing is no way to win the James Bond Memorial Prize. By contrast, the method I devised for the said assistant-under-secretary in the Ministry of Imports and Exports was of an elegance almost unparalleled in the history of commercial transactions.

About a fortnight before we were going to have to apply for an import permit, I would pay him a noonday visit, during which we would discuss nothing of consequence and drink a lot of *his disgusting tea. I would* then offer him the use of my car and chauffeur to take him back to his house for lunch.

On the back seat of the car I would have left a brown paper parcel containing, say, a suit-length of lightweight English cloth, some lipstick, a bottle of scent and some fine snuff. When the car returned to pick me up at half past two the brown paper parcel would be gone. A fortnight later I would put in my application for the permit which would be processed with ease and dispatch.

Bearing in mind the difficulty of importing vital machinery you might be surprised that it was possible to import suitlengths, lipstick, scent, snuff, etc, *with which to smooth* the way. Quite right. These items had to be smuggled in by my American boss when he came over on a trip. He would cover them up with other packages containing sausages and bacon for me, which were unobtainable in a Muslim country. However, the main point was that when the airport customs officers opened his bags and *saw them lying* there they would turn green with horror and pass him on through without further inspection.

Alas, eventually there was a coup or an assassination or something and the new regime cracked down on this innocent fun, setting up an actual Ministry of Anti-corruption for the purpose. After a bit, however, the whole process began over again, except that now the fees had all gone up.

It was explained that the officials of the Ministry of Anti-corruption, having found out exactly what was going on with their little magnifying glasses, were shaking down everyone else to the tune of 20 per cent of the take-off. So it wasn't long before they were riding about in the biggest, blackest, fastest cars

Unfortunately, the opening up of the game also spawned a complex network of malfeasance at a lower level. Suddenly it was no longer enough to keep the assistant-under-secretary happy. Everyone else in the whole chain of the processing of the application had to be happy too.

I was not exposed to this business climate for long. But it is an established fact that anybody who has lived that way for more than 10 years is bound to end up a crook. However scrupulously one draws the dotted line between what one should and should not do under such crazy circumstances, the pressures towards the direction of immoral expediency are inexorable. What on earth is to be done about this I haven't the faintest idea, but it may partly explain how people working in these places come to behave in the way they do.

Francis Kinsman

Stock markets

Week ends with index sixteen points better

A rumour that Mr Healey had dropped out of the race for the Labour leadership, though unfounded, was enough to put equities sharply better between 11 am and noon yesterday.

Thereafter, interest waned and such buying as there was became very selective. Again much of the interest centred on second-line stocks with dealers discerning a degree of "Budget buying" in the hope that the Chancellor will favour this or that sector.

The *FT* Index had advanced 5.5 by midday to reach its "top" of the session. But as *prices drifted in* later trading it eased back and by the close stood at 410.4, a net gain of 4.1. The now widely held opinion of the pundits that "we will not see 390 again" is certainly borne out by the week's trading with the index rising more than 16 points in spite of the uncertainties created by the Prime Minister's resignation.

Stocks involved in bid situations commanded a good deal of attention. Prominent were **Ritz Hotel**, down 50p to £6 after the surprise offer from **Trafalgar House**, **Hugh Baird**, which was marked up 17½p to 34p after Manbre terms, **Broxlea**, firmer by 9p to 25p on the *Bulgin approach*, and **Emu Wine** where the higher terms from Western Australian added 7p to 185p.

The possibility of higher prices brought renewed strength to the chemicals sector where **Lankro** went ahead 6p to 154p, **Brent** 4p to 105p and **Laporte** 3p to 96p. But the exception was Yorkshire Chemicals, which gave up 4p to 138p after a lower result.

Electricals were again in good form as they have been for most of the week. The best were **Racal** 10p to 268p, **Thorn "A"** 4p to 270p and **Hoover** 3p to 318p. The electronics takeover did not help **EMI**, off a penny to 265p, while **Comet Radio** attracted speculative support and gained 3p to 51p. After results deemed to be satisfactory, **Philips Lamp** were 45p better to £10.20 at one stage.

Among the "blue chips", **Unilever** had a good session gaining 6p to 450p while **ICI** 399p and **Fisons** 365p were more modest with advances of three points. There was a similar story in engineers with **Tube Investments** 370p and *GKN 348p firming 4p apiece* and **Babcock & Wilcox**, at 81p, better by 3p.

Still reflecting earlier results, **Prudential** was one of the best of the insurance shares going ahead 6p to 145p. Pearl, with results scheduled for next Wednesday, were another very firm spot, advancing 10p to 232p while the brokers consolidated their recent strength with **CE Heath** 6p better to 322p and **Howden** rising 3p to 148p. **Equity Law** were also in good form with a leap of 8p to 174p.

In properties, **British Land** reflected the lack of a rights issue with its results and gained a penny to 32½p. Others to advance were **Great Portland** 4p to 236p and **Artagen** 3½p to 68½p. **Reardon Smith** continued to be the centre of much attraction in shipping. After Thursday's spectacular gains the "A" shares went ahead another 4p to 74p spurred by the news that a private company within the group has raised its stake *from 9.6 per cent to 11 per cent.*

Other firm spots included **Rotork** 8p to 164p and **Braby Leslie** 5p to 67p while **Yarrow** had a firm session and rose 3p to 167p. In oils, **BP**, spurred by another find, added 15p to 611p while **Shell** recovered from Thursday's selling and edged *forward 2p to 410½p.*

The main talking point in gilts was the announcement of a new short-dated "tap" stock, Treasury 9½ per cent 1981, in the afternoon. It caused prices in this part of the market to weaken by 1/16 or ¼ point after an active day which had otherwise left prices at overnight levels.

Without any fuss a big line of Glaxo stock has been placed this week. When the line was finished yesterday, the price jumped 7p to 380p, the best of the "blue chips". Interim figures are due on April 12 and some bears are revising their views.

Equity turnover on March 25 was £55.23m (16,897 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were Shell, Woolworth, Reed International, Slater, Walker, Barclays Bank, BP, Fisons new, Rank, ICI, Siebens Oil, Philips Lamps, Racal, Standard Chartered, Staflex, Reardon Smith ordinary and "A", Lyle Shipping "A", Rowntree, Glaxo, Lucas, Lankro and Brent Manufacturing.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Anglowest (10p) Fin	Nil	1.05	—	0.39	1.62
Bank Bridge (5p) Int	Nil	0.2	—	—	0.2
Beatson, Clark (25p) Fin	2.72	2.38	11/5	4.19	3.85
Coates Bros (25p) Fin	1.25	1.2	1/7	1.39	1.77
Doncaster Bros (25p) Fin	4.34	4.34	—	7.84	7.81
Dufay (10p) Fin	0.75	Nil	21/5	1.27	1.25
Helenic & Gen (10p) Fin	0.97	Nil	18/5	1.64	0.7
H. J. Quick (5p)	0.52	0.52	—	0.94	0.85
Samuel Sherman (10p)	Nil	0.64	—	Nil	0.64
Wilhelme Bronze (25p) Fin	3.67	3.51	24/5	6.42	6.01

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54.

Progress at Brit Land but a long way to go

By John Brennan

British Land, the £280m property group run by Mr John Ritblat, has cut its half year pre-tax loss from £4.08m to £2.86m. These figures have however, been arrived at before charging £1.07m of development outgoings which have been added to the costs of new buildings.

At the attributable level the group's deficit for the six months to the end of September last was down by £1.5m to £3.05m.

The loss reduction, achieved despite an increase in interest charges of £1.3m to £9.3m, left the shares 1p firmer at 32½p But with debts of around £200m, three-quarters of which are ings, British Land—as the half year figures illustrates—still urgently needs to de-gear.

Mr Ritblat reports that property sales in the 1975-76 financial year will total £10.5m, and negotiations have been completed for a further £20m of sales. He comments "the proceeds of all these disposals equate with book values, and mark a further stage in the *group's recovery*".

The interim statement does not incorporate any adjustment in the book value of the group's £288m portfolio.

Gross rents for the group are now running at more than £16m a year, and new lettings already agreed will add a further £1.6m a year to that total. In the 1974-75 financial year British Land's total rent roll came to just over £11m.

Accounts of the Biba subsidiaries of Dorothy Perkins, the fashion shop chain owned by British Land, have not been consolidated this time following the closure last year of the Biba store in Kensington High Street.

A £610,000 provision will be made in this year's accounts to cover losses arising on the run-down of the business, taking the total write down for losses on the closure to £3.87m.

Mr Ritblat forecasts: "assuming further satisfactory progress with our degearing policy and no unduly adverse change in interest rates, it is anticipated that although the consequential benefits will not become apparent in the results for the second half of this financial year, they will contribute to *an improvement in the revenue* for the ensuing period".

Downturn in second-half foils Dufay

Though half time profits of Dufay Bitumastic rose from £574,000 to £626,000, the board *was cautious about the second* six months to December 31.

It did, however expect "good" profits. In the event the closing half provided £413,000 out of the total £1.04m against £1.13m, and compared with some £735,000 for the same period in 1974. Sales for the year were up 4.3 per cent to £9.18m.

In part, says chairman Mr J. Bridge, the shortfall reflected an initial monthly delivery on a large export order put back at the customer's request from October until December.

Net profits for 1975 fell from £439,000 to £407,000, and earnings a share from 6p to 5.8p. The year's payment is lifted from 1.52p gross to 2.12p, and the board hopes at least to maintain this rate in 1976.

Mr Bridge says his board hopes for a "satisfactory" year. He says that the group is in good shape, and poised to proceed with the development of its business—the manufacture and application of surface coatings.

Bank borrowings at December 31 amounted to £600,000. This was £562,000 below the *previous year-end.*

Margins doubts at Yorks Chem

By Richard Allen

Yorkshire Chemicals, the Leeds-based dye manufacturer suffered a 30 per cent set-back in pre-tax profits to £2.02m in the year to December 31. Profits after all charges including taxation were £869,909, just over 20 per cent down on the company's internal figure of £1.1m for the previous 12 months. Due to the change in the financial year, audited accounts are only available for the previous nine months when the after-tax figure was £902,743.

Profits from trading were lower than in the previous year but in view of business conditions "amongst the worst experienced in the last 30 years", the directors claim they are not dissatisfied.

The final dividend goes up from 1.26p gross to 3.02p making 6.02p compared with 4.2p for the nine months to end December, 1974, the maximum permitted increase.

The directors state that for most of the year the world recession particularly affected sales of dyes, though an improvement in some markets developed in the last quarter of the year.

Sales demand is much improved in comparison with the first half of 1975. Trading conditions are better in many world markets but there is no return to the boom conditions of 1974.

If current conditions continue throughout the year sales will be much higher than in 1975 but profit performance will be critically affected by the group's ability to obtain improved selling prices.

The decision to continue the very heavy investment programme during 1975 placed a severe burden on the group's resources but the board states that the benefits of this policy should be apparent in 1977. Then the group will be in a better position to take advantage of better world trading conditions.

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FULL NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

OCCUPATION

DATE OF BIRTH

NAME OF USUAL DOCTOR (unless under 16)

ADDRESS

ARE YOU A NON-SMOKER? (IF SO WE HOLD 10%)

Declaration. PART I I declare that, to the best of my belief, I am in good health and free from defect, that I have not had any serious illness or major operation, that I do not engage in any hazardous sports or pursuits, that I do not engage in aviation except as a fare-paying passenger on recognised routes, and that no proposal on my life has ever been otherwise invited.

PART II I agree that this declaration and any declaration made by me in connection with this proposal, shall be the basis of the contract between me and M & G Trust (Assurance) Limited, and that I will accept them customary form of policy.

SIGNATURE DATE

Registered in England No. 684186. Registered Office. M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd. 91-99 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0PT.

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BA 480036

M&G

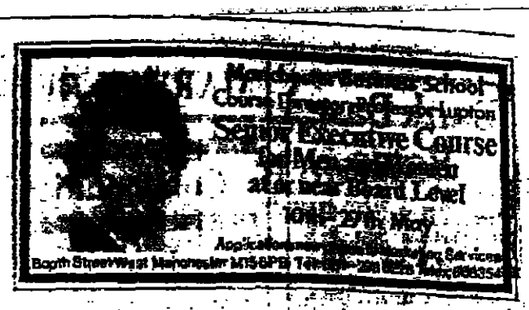
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Firm end to week

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Mar 22. Dealings End, Apr 2. § Contango Day, Apr 5. Settlement Day, Apr 13
§ Forward bargains are dealt on two previous days.


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I — L

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O — S

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THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 25.03.76 (base date June 2, 1966 original) take effect June 3, 1930:—

	Index No.	Yield	Earn. Yield	Index No. Year ago
Latest				
The Times Industrial Share Index	187.12	5.97	10.13	164.71
Largest Caps	184.65	5.98	10.24	162.56
Smaller Caps	187.59	5.95	9.98	164.86
Capital Goods	174.45	6.18	9.98	154.02
Consumer Goods	196.52	5.78	10.42	172.54
More Shares	134.86	6.80	7.17	117.35
Largest Financial	189.71	5.62	—	161.10
Largest Financial and Industrial	7	187.06	5.74	—
Commodities	Apr 1	280.42	4.72	17.98
Gold Mining Shares				
Industrial Securities	92.15	7.40	—	78.17
Irish Unit	94.20	7.24	—	79.95
Investment Trusts				

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High	Low	Close
All-time	196.42	15.08.75	66.67
1975	196.42	15.08.75	66.67
1974	174.93	29.11.74	66.67
1973	134.86	29.11.73	81.42
1972	152.19	28.06.72	88.93
1971	174.93	29.11.71	120.07
1970	158.67	25.06.70	104.65
1969	214.76	29.12.69	132.83

Flat interest yield.

هكذا من الأصل

MARKET REPORTS

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	9½%
First London Secs	9½%
C. Hoare & Co.	*9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster	9½%
Rossminster ACC's	9½%
Shenley Trust	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 5¼%, up to £25,000, 6¼%, over £25,000, 6¼%.

European Law

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Commodities

Good support boosts cocoa

Cocoa traded up to new life-of-contract highs on the London market yesterday in the face of good all-round support. At the close March was £4.75 up on Thursday at £824.75 and May was £4.50 ahead at £799.75.

Base metals eased. Copper cash wire bars were £5 down and three months was also £5 lower. Standard cash tin dropped £22 and three months lost £24. Lead was £2 lower in both positions and zinc dropped £3.50 and £3.75.

COPPER.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £705-706 a metric ton; three months, £726-26.50. Sales, 2,600 tons. Cash cathodes, £696-97; three months, £716-17. Sales, 250 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £706.50-07.00; three months, £727-27.50. Settlement, £707. Sales, 3,375 tons. Cash cathodes, £697-98; three months, £717.50-18.00. Settlement, £698. Sales 2,275 tons (mainly carries).

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 214.9p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 413); three months, 219.6p (417.9c); six months, 224.9p (423.5c); one-year, 238.10p (441.2c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 213.8-14.2p; three months, 218.6-18.7p; seven months, 220-26p. Sales, 61 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 214.9-215.1p; three months, 219.5-19.6p; seven months, 226.2-26.7p. Settlement, 215.1p. Sales, 21 lots.

TIN. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £3,665-68 a metric ton; three months, £3,673-77. Sales, 150 tons. High grade, Cash, £3,675-85; three months, £3,685-3,700. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £3,662-65; three months, £3,673-75. Settlement, £3,665. Sales, 300 tons. High grade, cash, £3,675-85; three months, £3,692-3,700. Settlement, £3,685. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M1,077 a picul.

LEAD.—Afternoon.—Cash, £198.50-99.00 a metric ton; three months, £206-06.50. Sales, 300 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £198-98.50; three months, £206-06.50. Settlement, £198.50. Sales, 2,325 tons (about half carries).

ZINC.—Afternoon.—Cash, £384.50-85.50 a metric ton; three months, £397-98. Sales, 3,750 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £384.50-85.00; three months, £397-97.50. Settlement, £385. Sales, 2,100 tons (about half carries). Producers' price, $795 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was 30p down at £70.80 ($136) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was about steady. May, 43.50-44.50p per kilo; June, 42.75-44.75p; July-Sept, 46.80-47.00p; Oct-Dec, 48.95-49.00p; Jan-March, 50.10-51.00p; April-June, 52.15-52.35p; July-Sept, 53.30-53.70p; Oct-Dec, 54.50-55.00p; Jan-March, 55.00-56.00p. Sales, 177 lots at 15 tonnes. RUBBER PHYSICALS were slightly steadier.—Spot, 430.75-45.75. Cifs. May, 43.60-44.00; June, 44.25-44.75.

COFFEE: Robusta futures were steady.—ROBUSTAS.—March, £907-909 per metric ton; May, £930-931; July, £928-939; Sept, £939-941; Nov, £947-948; Jan, £955-956; March, £963-968. Sales, 1,347 lots including 86 options.

ARABICAS were dull.—April, $111-113 per 50 kilos; June, $113-115; Aug, $114-115; Oct, $114-114.75; Dec, $113-114; Feb, $113-114; April, $113.75-114.00. Sales, one lot.

COCOA was very firm.—March, £824.50-25.00 per metric ton; May, £799.50-800; July, £777-78; Sept, £750-55; Dec, £729-29.50; March, £719-20; May, £710-11. Sales, 3,701 lots. ICO prices: daily, 65.80c; 15-day average, 63.73c; 22-day average, 63.87c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR was steady. The London daily prices were: "raws" £185 (£3 down); "whites" £193 (£3 down).—May, £181.80-82.00 per long ton; Aug, £181.45-81.50; Oct, £180.15-80.35; Dec, £178.75-79.00; March, £178-78.25; May, £177.25-78.00; Aug, £176.30-77.50. Sales: 4,363 lots. ISA prices: 14.95c; 17-day average, 14.94c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady.—April, £88.10-88.30 per metric ton; June, £88.60-88.80; Aug, £89.70-89.90; Oct, £90.60-90.80; Dec, £91.70-91.80; Feb, £92.70-92.90; April, £93.70-93.90. Sales: 36 lots.

WOOL.—Grease futures were steady.—March, 188-93p per kilo; May, 195-96p; July, 201-203p; Oct, 213-214p; Dec, 221-223p; March, 229-233p; May, 230-235p. Sales, 3 lots.

JUTE was steady.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, March-April, £202 per long ton. "D" grade, March-April, £193. Calcutta was firm.—Indian, spot, Rs 505 per bale of 400 lbs. Dundee Daisee, spot, Rs 475.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: first half June £97 direct Tilbury. US hard winter No 2 ordinary 13 per cent: April £91.25; May £91.05 trans-shipment east coast. EEC feed: April £68.25; May £69.25 east coast. MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American-French: March £69.50; April £69.80; May £71. South African yellow: April £73; May £74 Glasgow. BARLEY was unquoted. All per long ton cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin. BARLEY was steady. May, £69.15; Sept, £65.65; Nov, £67.50; Jan, £69.50. Sales: 75 lots. WHEAT was steady. May, £69.70; Sept, £66.50; Nov, £68.50; Jan, £70.70. Sales 68 lots.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices:

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Lancashire	—	£69.45	£67.20
Kent	£70	£67.50	£65.60

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 26.—UK: Cattle £35.03 per live cwt (+0.16). Sheep 49.4p per lb EDCW (+0.9). Pigs £4.89 per Sc1.W (+0.04). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 8.0 per cent, average price £34.95 (+0.37). Sheep numbers up 25.3 per cent, average price 49.2p (+1.3). Pig numbers down 15.3 per cent, average price £4.89 (+0.04). Scotland: Cattle numbers down 14.1 per cent, average price £35.88 (−0.23). Sheep numbers down 15.8 per cent, average price 50.3p (−0.5). Pigs, nil.

TYNESIDE INV TRUST

Chairman says there are growing signs that leading industrial countries are coming out of recession and board think it right to be fully invested in equities and to maintain existing world wide geographical spread of investments.

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
27/28 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
46	25	Armitage & Rhodes	32	—	3.0	9.4	8.4
106	94	Deborah Services	106	—	7.5	7.1	5.6
150	115	Henry Sykes	145	—	4.9	3.4	9.7
36	18	Twinlock Ord	19	—	0.9	4.9	4.7
67	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	67	—	12.0	17.9	—
63	48	Unilock Holdings	61	—	4.5	7.4	11.8

Carliol Investment Trust Limited

The 69th Annual General Meeting will be held on 23 April, 1976. The following is an abbreviated statement by the Chairman, Mr. D. A. Pease:—

Progress continued during the year to 31 January 1976 and net assets per share rose by some 50% to 153p, surpassing the level of 148p achieved in 1973 when the FT Ordinary Index stood at 463.

Although the current spread of investments – approx. 50% in the UK and 50% overseas – indicates an increased emphasis in the UK, this is due to the sharp rise in UK prices and does not indicate a change of investment policy.

During the year we took out a $1½ million five year foreign loan facility with a U.S. Bank, enabling us to transfer part of our overseas investments to non-premium currencies and to sell investment dollars at a high rate of premium.

The total dividend has been increased by 10% to 2.75p per share (1975—2.50p). A second interim in lieu of final will be paid on 2 April 1976.

It appears that the economic recession is receding in this country and elsewhere, and the recent world wide fall in interest rates and rise in share market values indicate a return of confidence. However, inflation and unemployment remain the most intractable problems of our time. Success in arriving at a solution will depend on the Government's determination to control increases in wages not linked to productivity and not to reflate the economy with the objective of a political solution to the unemployment problem.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	31.1.76	31.1.75
Total Net Assets	£18,710,896	£12,892,414
Net Asset Value per Ordinary Share	153p	102p
Net Revenue	£301,612	£300,863
Per Ordinary Share Earnings	2.94p	2.94p
Dividend	2.75p	2.50p

Copies of the Annual Report available from the Secretary at Milburn House, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1LU. Telephone: 0632-28995.

The Tyneside Investment Trust Limited

The 69th Annual General Meeting will be held on 23 April, 1976. The following is an extract from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. R. H. Dickinson:—

During the past year there has been a substantial recovery in share prices in all the countries in which the Company is principally invested. As a result the net asset value per share rose by 48% to a new "high" of 147p per share.

Although the net asset value has not risen in line with the UK Stock Market over the past year, this is due to the high proportion of overseas holdings in our portfolio. In the longer term this has been of great benefit with net assets rising by 153% in the 10 years to 31 January, 1976 compared with a rise of 80% in the FT All Share Index.

To reduce the exposure to the investment currency premium, we took out a five year foreign currency loan facility in the sum of $750,000 with a U.S. Bank during the year.

The Board have declared a second interim dividend, in lieu of a final, of 2.05p, making 2.75p for the year – an increase of 10% over 1975.

So far as the current year is concerned, there are growing signs that the leading industrial countries, particularly the United States, are coming out of the recession and in these circumstances the Board think it right to be fully invested in equities and to maintain the existing wide geographical spread of investments.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	31.1.76	31.1.75
Total Net Assets	£10,779,638	£7,450,861
Net Asset Value per Ordinary Share	147p	99p
Net Revenue	£179,387	£178,497
Per Ordinary Share Earnings	2.79p	2.77p
Dividends	2.75p	2.50p

Copies of the Annual Report available from the Secretary at Milburn House, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1LU. Telephone: 0632-28995.

Foreign Exchange

Foreign exchanges were quiet yesterday and seemed to have regained some of their poise after the upheavals of recent weeks. However, the Belgian franc continued to be under pressure for much of the session and the mark advanced once more.

Sterling was completely unruffled by these developments and traded narrowly in the range $1.9200 to $1.9235.

Dealers detected some nervousness over the leadership of the Labour Party, but it amounted to very little.

The dollar was unaffected by the latest American trade figures. It was a shade firmer against some European currencies in the afternoon.

The pound closed at $1.9205, down 30 points on the day. The "effective depreciation" was 33.8 per cent all day, 0.1 cent *up from Thursday's close*.

Gold weakened slightly with dealers referring to a small amount of selling when New York opened in the afternoon. It ended at $131½, down $1½ on the day.

Spot Position of Sterling

[illegible]

Effective depreciation since December 21, 1971, up 0.1 to 33.8 per cent.

Forward Levels

[illegible]

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar) $1.0727-75.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 4¾-5; seven days, 4¾-5¼; one month, 5-5½; three months, 5¼-5¾; six months, 6-6½.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $132.20 (an ounce); pm, $131.80.

Krugerrand (per coin): $134-136 (£69¾-70¾) (domestic); $134-136 (£69¾-70¾) (international).

Sovereigns (old), $40-42 (£20¾-21¾) (international).

COMENG—BRADKEN

Sydney.—Comeng Holdings has decided not to accept the offer by Australian National Industries for Comeng's stake in Bradken Consolidated Ltd.

Discount market

Money was slightly short in the discount market yesterday, but the shortage was not on a large enough scale to require any action by the authorities. High rates ruled for much of the day.

"Calling" was not unduly heavy, but since fresh funds were not too readily forthcoming and there had been some tight situations earlier in the week, houses paid fairly high rates to ensure that they obtained funds. Later, after taking on some funds at 8½ per cent, they were able to bring their rates down to 8¼ and even 8 per cent in the early part of the afternoon. At the finish, books were being ruled off with money taken over a band of 7 to 8 per cent.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 9% (Last changed 5/3/76)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9½%

[illegible]

Recent Issues

[illegible]

Wall Street

New York, March 26.—In the absence of motivating news, the stock market today wandered over a very narrow range with the bias on the upside. Turnover was relatively light, at 18.51 million shares.

Some analysts labelled it a "market without conviction", adding that many investors turned a bit cautious ahead of the weekend. They said that the $500m decline in the United States money supply in the latest week did not provide any special motivation for investors. The figures, which often provide hints of future trends in monetary policy and interest rates, were released by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York late yesterday. The Dow Jones industrials rose a little more than a point to around 1003.46.

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices given in the table relate to Thursday's close. Later publication is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

Gold falls sharply

New York, March 26.—GOLD closed sharply lower in active trading on the COMEX and the International monetary market amid speculation that the International Monetary Fund plans to begin its previously announced gold sales early in May. COMEX prices surrendered $3.50 to $4 with the March contract, which expired today. IMM prices ranged from $3.40 to $4.70 lower.

GOLD: March, $129.20; April, $129.20; May, $129.40; June, $129.60; Aug, $130.50; Oct, $131.60; Dec, $132.80; Feb, $133.90; April, $135.00; June, $136.10. CHICAGO IMM: June, $129.10-129.50; Sept, $130.60; Dec, $132.00-131.80; March, $133.60; June, $137.00.

SILVER closed a cent or so off the lows, 3.30 to 3.50c down on the day. Volume was moderate at an estimated 7,589 contracts. The market was under speculative selling pressure for most of the day, as gold markets moved lower, traders said. March, 407.80c; April, 407.80c; May, 409.20c; July, 413.60c; Sept, 418.70c; Dec, 427.70c; Jan, 430.60c; March, 436.50c; May, 443.40c; July, 448.30c. Handy and Harman 411.50c (previous 415.20c). Handy and Harman of Canada: Can$4.051 (previous Can$4.132).

COPPER. Closed steady on estimated sales of 3,601. March, 62.40c; April, 62.40c; May, 62.80c; July, 63.60c; Sept, 64.40c; Dec, 65.50c; Jan, 65.80c; March, 66.60c.

SUGAR: Closed steady on estimated sales of 4,174. May, 14.70-73c; July, 14.65-68c; Sept, 14.54c nominal; Oct, 14.53-50c; Jan, 14.45c nominal; March, 14.34-35c; May, 14.32-30c; July, 14.27c nominal. Spot, 14.90c unchanged.

COCOA. Closed firm on estimated sales of 990. May, 69.75c; July, 65.75c; Sept, 62.75c; Dec, 59.90c; March, 58.02c; May, 56.70c. Spots: Ghana, 75c; Bahia, 75c.

COFFEE: Closed steady on estimated sales of 498. May, 104.00-5.00c; July, 105.60c; Sept, 103.40c; Dec, 101.90-3.00c; March, 101.50-60c.

COTTON: Closed steady on estimated sales of 1,550. May, 57.88-85c; July, 58.15-20c; Oct, 58.15-20c; Dec, 57.70-.80c; March, 58.55-.80c; May, 59.25-4.0c; July, 59.45-.70c.

WOOL: Futures and crossbred futures were tradeless today. GREASE WOOL: Spot, 166.0c nominal; May, 160.0-8.0c; July, 160.0-8.0c; Oct, 162.0-5.0c; Dec, 162.0-6.5c; March, 163.0-5.0c. CROSSBRED: Spot, 102.0c nominal; May, 100.0-7.0c; July, 105.0-110.0c; Oct, 105.0-110.0c; Dec, 105.0-110.0c; March, 105.0-110.0c.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, $1.9205 ($1.9230); three months, $1.9000 ($1.9020). Canadian dollar, 101.69c (101.69c).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index fell 0.26 to 309.54. The futures index was off 0.18 at 301.54.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 1,003.46 (1,002.13); transportation, 209.62 (209.38); utilities, 87.30 (87.30); 65 stocks, 305.25 (304.94).

CHICAGO SOYABEANS: SOYABEANS: May, 473¼-¼c; July, 481¼-¼c; Aug, 484¼-84c; Sept, 480¼c; Nov, 495¼c; Jan, 502¼-03c; March, 510c; May, 517c. SOYABEAN OIL: May, 16.33-.34c; July, 16.54-.55c; Aug, 16.61-.60c; Sept, 16.54-.60c; Oct, 16.68-.70c; Dec, 16.78c; Jan, 16.80-.85c; March, 16.85-.85c; May, 17.00c. SOYABEAN MEAL: May, $131.90-1.70; July, $134.30; Aug, $135.80-6.00; Sept, $137.00-7.50; Oct, $137.90-8.40; Dec, $140.30-0.50; Jan, $142.50-3.00; March, $143.00-4.00; May, $144.00-5.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS.—WHEAT: May, 353¼-54c; July, 360¼-59¼c; Sept, 365¼-66¼c; Dec, 378¼c; March, 385c. MAIZE: May, 267¼-68c; July, 272-71¼c; Sept, 268¼c; Dec, 262¼-63c; March, 269c; May, 272¼c. OATS: May, 160c; July, 148¼c; Sept, 147¼c; Dec, 150¼c.

	Mar 25	Mar 24
Allied Chem	[illegible]	41
Allied Stores	58	[illegible]
Allied Supermkt	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Airlines	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	35
Am Cyanamid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Home	35	[illegible]
Am Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Nat Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Standard	27	[illegible]
Am Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMF Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Anaconda	[illegible]	[illegible]
Armco Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Asarco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ashland Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Atlantic Richfield	89	89
Avco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Avon Products	[illegible]	[illegible]
Babcock & Wcox	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bankers Tst NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of America	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beatrice Foods	[illegible]	23
Bell & Howell	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bendix	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bethlehem Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boeing	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boise Cascade	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borden	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borg Warner	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bristol Myers	[illegible]	78
BP	[illegible]	[illegible]
Budd	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burlington Ind	[illegible]	30
Burlington Nthn	[illegible]	37
Burroughs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Campbell Soup	[illegible]	[illegible]
Canadian Pacific	17	[illegible]
Caterpillar	[illegible]	[illegible]
Celanese	[illegible]	53
Central Soya	[illegible]	[illegible]
Charter NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chase Manhat	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chem Bank NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chesapeake Ohio	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chrysler	[illegible]	[illegible]
Citicorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cities Service	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clark Equip	[illegible]	[illegible]
Coca Cola	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colgate	[illegible]	[illegible]
CBS	[illegible]	[illegible]
Columbia Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Combustion Eng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Comwlth Edison	29	29
Cons Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Power	20	20
Continental Can	[illegible]	[illegible]
Continental Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Control Data	[illegible]	[illegible]
Corning Glass	[illegible]	64
CPC Intnl	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crane	[illegible]	70
Crocker Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crown Zeller	46	[illegible]
Dart Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deere	[illegible]	[illegible]
Del Monte	[illegible]	[illegible]
Delta Air	[illegible]	[illegible]
Detroit Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Disney	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dow Chemical	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dresser Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Duke Power	[illegible]	[illegible]
Du Pont	148	[illegible]
Eastern Air	[illegible]	8
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]	117
Eaton Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
El Paso Nat Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Equitable Life	[illegible]	[illegible]
Esmark	[illegible]	[illegible]
Evans P. D.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Exxon Corp	94	[illegible]
Fed Dept Stores	[illegible]	58
Firestone	24	[illegible]
Fst Chicago	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Nat Boston	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Penn Corp	[illegible]	16
Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]
GAF Corp	[illegible]	15
Gamble Skogmo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Dynamics	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Instrument	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Pub Util NY	17	[illegible]
Gen Tel Elec	26	26
Gen Tire	[illegible]	[illegible]
Genesco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Georgia Pacific	56	[illegible]
Getty Oil	[illegible]	168
Gillette	[illegible]	[illegible]
Goodrich	[illegible]	[illegible]
Goodyear	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gould Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Grace	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gt Atlic & Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Greyhound	[illegible]	16
Grumman Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf & West	25	[illegible]
Heinz H. J.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hercules	[illegible]	[illegible]
Honeywell	[illegible]	[illegible]
IC Inds	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ingersoll	[illegible]	[illegible]
Inland Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
IBM	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Harvester	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Nickel	[illegible]	34
Int Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Tel Tel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jewel Co	[illegible]	23
Jim Walter	[illegible]	[illegible]
Johns-Manville	[illegible]	[illegible]
Johnson & John	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kaiser Alumin	33	[illegible]
Kennecott	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kerr McGee	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kimberly Clark	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kraftco Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kresge SS	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kroger	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ligg Myer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Litton	15	[illegible]
Lockheed	[illegible]	10
Lucky Stores	15	[illegible]
Manfl Hanover	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mapco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marathon Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marcor Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marine Midland	[illegible]	[illegible]
Martin Marietta	[illegible]	[illegible]
McDonnell	18	[illegible]
Mead	29	[illegible]
Merck	[illegible]	75
Minnesota Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mobil Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Monsanto	[illegible]	[illegible]
Morgan J. P.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Motorola	[illegible]	[illegible]
NCR Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
NL Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nabisco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat Distillers	25	[illegible]
Nat Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norfolk West	[illegible]	[illegible]
NW Bancorp	48	[illegible]
Norton Simon	[illegible]	22
Occidental Pet	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ogden	[illegible]	[illegible]
Olin Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Otis Elevator	39	[illegible]
Owens-Illinois	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Gas Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pan Am	[illegible]	[illegible]
Penn Central	[illegible]	[illegible]
Penney J. C.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pennzoil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pepsico	74	[illegible]
Pet Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pfizer	[illegible]	30
Phelps Dodge	[illegible]	[illegible]
Philip Morris	[illegible]	56
Phillips Petrol	57	[illegible]
Polaroid	[illegible]	[illegible]
PPG Ind	46	[illegible]
Proctor Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pullman	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rapid American	[illegible]	[illegible]
Raytheon	[illegible]	[illegible]
RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Republic Steel	[illegible]	38
Reynolds Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reynolds Metal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rockwell Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Royal Dutch	[illegible]	[illegible]
Safeways	[illegible]	45
St Regis Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Santa Fe Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
SCM	[illegible]	[illegible]
Schlumberger	[illegible]	[illegible]
Scott Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Seaboard Coast	[illegible]	[illegible]
Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sears Roebuck	[illegible]	[illegible]
Shell Oil	[illegible]	54
Shell Trans	[illegible]	[illegible]
Signal Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Singer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sony	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sth Cal Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southern Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southern Rly	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sperry Rand	[illegible]	[illegible]
Squibb	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Oil Califnia	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Oil Indiana	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Oil Ohio	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling Drug	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stevens J. P.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stude Worth	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sunbeam Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sundstrand	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sun Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Teledyne	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tenneco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texaco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texas East Trans	[illegible]	30
Texas Inst	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texas Utilities	[illegible]	[illegible]
Textron	28	[illegible]
TWA	[illegible]	[illegible]
Travelers Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
TRW Inc	[illegible]	33
UAL Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unilever Ltd	[illegible]	[illegible]
Unilever NV	[illegible]	[illegible]
Uniroyal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Bancorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Carbide	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Oil Calif	[illegible]	46
Un Pacific Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Uniroyal	[illegible]	[illegible]
United Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Utd Merch & Man	16	[illegible]
US Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
US Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Utd Technol	[illegible]	60
Vought Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wachovia	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warner Comm	[illegible]	24
Warner Lambert	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wells Fargo	[illegible]	[illegible]
West'n Bancorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Westnghse Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Weyerhaeuser	[illegible]	49
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White Motor	[illegible]	[illegible]
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• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New Issue. p Stock Split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Canadian Prices

[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

[illegible]

Offshore and International Funds

[illegible]

• Ex dividend. * Not available to the general public. † Guernsey gross yield. ‡ Previous day's price. § Ex all. ¶ Dealings suspended. • Subdivided. £ Cash value for £100 premium.

Dealing or valuation days—(1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday. (6) Apr 2. (7) Mar 30. (8) Apr 20. (9) April 1. (10) Apr 16. (11) Mar 30. (12) Apr 13. (20) 25th of month. (21) 2nd Thursday of month. (22) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month. (23) 20th of month. (24) 1st Tuesday of month. (25) 1st and 3rd Thursday of month. (26) 4th Thursday of month. (27) 1st Wednesday of month. (28) Last Thursday of month. (29) 3rd working day of month. (30) 16th of month. (31) 3rd working day of month. (32) 20th of month. (33) 1st day (1 Feb, May, Aug, Nov). (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of each month. (38) 3rd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly.

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T—Z

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MISCELLANEOUS

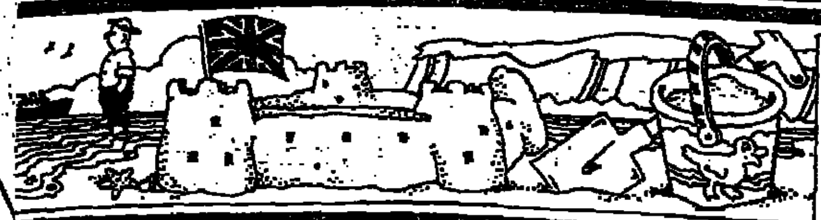
• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

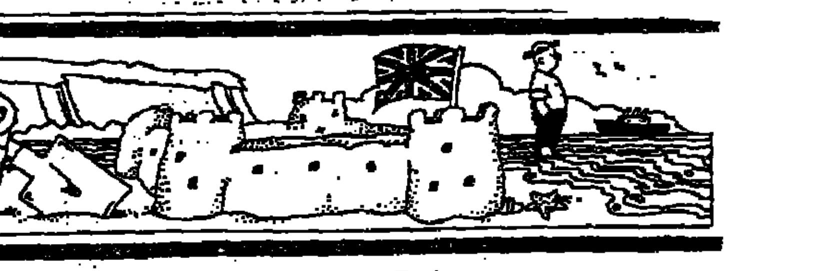
* Flat interest yield

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(continued on page 24)